

STARS AND STRIPES®

Iverson has serious fun, leads East's victory

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East's Allen Iverson (3) and West's Rashard Lewis



Soldiers recall attack that cost three their legs

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Oscar winner has good shot at second statue

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Actress Hilary Swank

Volume 2, No.316 © SS 2005 MIDEAST EDITION

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 22, 2005

Prison riot in Iraq reveals risks for U.S.

Recent uprising exposes increasingly violent inmate population Page 4

Gordon's third Daytona 500 win is sweetest yet

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Jeff Gordon

NASCAR driver Jeff Gordon spins his tires along the infield grass after winning the Daytona 500 Sunday afternoon at the Daytona International Speedway in Daytona Beach, Fla.

AP photos

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News Tracker ... What's new with old news

World

Serbia war crimes: A top Bosnian Serb general who was a close aide to wartime commander Gen. Ratko Mladic is to surrender voluntarily to the U.N. war crimes tribunal for the former Yugoslavia, the government in Belgrade said Monday.

The government said in a statement that retired Gen. Milan Gvero has agreed to give himself up to the tribunal at The Hague, Netherlands, after talks with Serbian Justice Minister Zoran Stojkovic.

The general has been accused of war crimes by the U.N. court, the government said, but provided no details.

Belgrade's B-92 radio, citing anonymous sources, said Gvero is charged with the forcible expulsion and killing of Muslims on the eve of the 1995 Bosnian Serb onslaught on Srebrenica, where more than 7,000 Muslim men and boys were executed.

Explosion in Iran: Iran said Monday it will launch a probe into media coverage of an explosion near a nuclear site in the country's south to learn why it was initially reported as a missile attack, which sparked fears of a foreign military attack in the Persian state.

Wednesday's explosion near the Gulf port city of Deylam, close to the Bushehr nuclear facility, was initially reported by state-run television as a possible missile attack or anti-aircraft fire. The government in Tehran later said it was caused by construction work on a dam.

Togo elections: Lawmakers amended Togo's constitution Monday to allow for elections within 60 days, but left the West African nation's military-appointed ruler in power in the interim despite intensifying pressure at home and abroad.

The amendment echoes a plan suggested Friday by President Faure Gnassingbe, which failed to appease the West African leaders who demanded that he step down.

Togo's army announced Gnassingbe's appointment on Feb. 5, hours after his father, Gnassingbe Eyadema died of a heart attack, ending his oppressive 38-year rule.



Protesters take to the streets of Beirut.

Demonstrations after Hariri's death: Tens of thousands of opposition supporters shouted insults at Syria and demanded the resignation of their pro-Syrian government in a demonstration in central Beirut, Lebanon, on Monday, marking a week since the assassination of Rafik Hariri, Lebanon's most prominent politician.

The massive protest came as Syria faces mounting international pressure to completely withdraw its army from Lebanon. The four-hour Beirut protest passed without violence despite heavy military and police presence.

Hariri, a former prime minister, was killed Feb. 14 in a massive bomb that the opposition blames on Damascus.

Germ warfare trial: The South African state on Monday applied to the Constitutional Court for the retrial of Wouter Basson, the alleged apartheid-era head of germ warfare and mastermind of schemes to poison



Sunken ferry: Bangladeshis look Monday at the remains of the double-decker ferry M.V. Maharaj from the banks of the Buriganga River, near Dhaka, Bangladesh. Divers found 37 more bodies Monday but missed the death toll in the weekend ferry sinking to 119. Officials said the search for dozens of missing passengers has been called off. The ferry was carrying about 200 people when it capsized during a storm just before midnight Saturday.

and sterilize black opponents.

Basson, nicknamed Dr. Death, was cleared in 2002 of 46 charges including murder, fraud, drug trafficking and theft. The state appealed against the acquittal, saying the judge was biased, but this was rejected by the Supreme Court of Appeal in 2003.

State counsel Vin Tregenza told the court that "constitutional imperatives" dictated that Basson should be brought to justice, according to the South African Press Association.

Threats to tsunami aid: Separatist rebels in Indonesia's Aceh province exchanged gunfire with Indonesian soldiers escorting an aid convoy over the weekend, but no relief workers were injured, a spokeswoman said Monday.

Sporadic gunfights between the rebels and security forces have occurred despite a unilateral cease-fire declared by the guerrillas after the Dec. 26 tsunami disaster. The insurgents, who are not known to attack foreigners, have also said they would not target aid groups.

Palestinian prisoners released: Israel freed 500 Palestinian prisoners in a goodwill gesture Monday.

In the West Bank city of Nablus, a crowd of 15,000 welcomed a group of 100 prisoners. Dozens of gunmen fired in the air, among them members of the Islamic militant group Hamas who appeared with their weapons in public and unmasked for the first time since Israeli and Palestinian leaders agreed to an unofficial truce earlier this month.

"There will be no peace as long as there is a single prisoner in Israeli jails," said Hassan Yousef, the Hamas leader in the West Bank, through a bulletin.

Nun's murder in Brazil: Brazil's president promised Monday that federal authorities would capture the remaining suspects in the killing of an American nun who died trying to protect the Amazon rain forest and peasants living there.

President Luiz Inacio Lula da Silva spoke a day after a second suspect was taken into custody in connection with the killing of 73-year-old Dorothy Stang, shot dead Feb. 12

in the lawless Amazon state of Para, where conflicts are common between peasants, loggers, land speculators and ranchers.

"We're not going to rest until we catch these murderers," Silva said.

The suspect taken into custody Sunday evening, Rayfran das Neves Sales, is believed to be one of the two gunmen who killed Stang with six shots, police said.

States

Couple accused of torture: Only after John and Linda Dolla's 16-year-old son was hospitalized with a head wound did investigators find what they say were signs of abuse at the home: a cattle prod, pliers and what appeared to be toenails.

The Dollas — regarded by Florida state social workers a decade ago as model parents — now stand accused of monstrous acts against five of their eight children, including the 16-year-old, who weighed just 60 pounds when he was hospitalized.

The couple appeared briefly in court Sunday in Lecanto, where a judge denied them bail.

"It's a tragedy, and I wish there was something we could've done sooner," said Florida Department of Children & Families spokesman Bill D'Aiuto. "But if we don't know about it, or if the school system doesn't know about it, or if a neighbor doesn't know about it ... there's nothing that us or law enforcement or anyone else can do."

Business

Flight attendant strike: Alitalia flight attendants went on a one-day strike Monday, forcing Italy's flagship carrier to cancel 90 flights.

The walkout was staged by one of several labor confederations representing the airline's staff. The workers are in contract renewal negotiations.

Alitalia said flight attendants would also continue their "sandwich strike" — refusing to serve in-flight snacks and beverages — until Feb. 26.

Stories and photos from The Associated Press

Riot at U.S. prison in Iraq exposes risks

BY BRADLEY GRAHAM

The Washington Post

CAMP BUCCA, Iraq — A bloody inmate riot three weeks ago at the biggest U.S.-run detention facility in Iraq has exposed an increasingly hard-core prison population that is confronting U.S. forces with a growing risk of military violence, according to military officials.

"What happened here on January 31st has changed the dynamics" of managing such situations, said Maj. Gen. William Brandenburg, who oversees U.S. military detention operations in Iraq and toured the facility last week. "It showed that the prisoners could hurt rocks farther than we could fire nonlethal weapons. It also showed that we have to do a bet-

ter job of understanding who we have in detention."

Four inmates died and six were injured in the uprising the morning of Jan. 31, the most deaths in a prison disturbance since U.S. forces invaded Iraq two years ago. Frightened guards, some having arrived in Iraq only a month before, tried vainly to quell the rioting, spraying pepper gas and shooting rubberized pellets into throngs of prisoners, according to accounts by troops here.

The clashes spread through five of eight compounds in the sprawling detention facility in the southern Iraqi desert near the Kuwait border. Prisoners pelted guards with large stones and makeshift weapons, heaving debris over 15-foot-high metal fences and up at 30-foot-tall guard towers that ring the compounds.

Only after two Army guards in separate towers opened fire with M-16 rifles, killing the inmates, did the violence subside. U.S. officers say the guards acted on their own, with no order to fire. Rules here allow for use of deadly force if soldiers feel endangered.

For the first time since the incident, U.S. authorities allowed a reporter to visit the facility last week and talk with some of those who were involved. The episode remains under criminal investigation by the military, but the interviews yielded many previously unreported details and information about internal concerns.

About 3,180 prisoners are now at the Abu Ghraib facility, which has remained the U.S. military's primary interrogation center.

Camp Bucca, which has a maximum capacity of 6,000 detainees, is up to about 5,150.

Camp Cropper, near the Baghdad airport, houses about 100 "high-value" detainees. Another 1,300 or so suspected insurgents are being held for initial screenings at military brigade and division levels, according to military figures.

There had been trouble at Camp Bucca before. In mid-October, fighting broke out between Sunni and Shiite prisoners in a dispute over observance of Ramadan, the Muslim fasting month. The Shiites were later placed in a separate compound.

In early December, a protest erupted after two prisoners were sentenced to isolation for an escape attempt. Shouting prisoners,

armed with sticks from collapsed tents and shielded by mattresses, threatened to assault. Guards avoided firing and instead dispersed the inmates using extra troops, guard dogs and firetrucks.

The uprising of Jan. 31 began when U.S. soldiers entered compound No. 5 to search for contraband. A Muslim cleric complained that the soldiers killed several Qurans. Soon, masses of prisoners formed and pressed up against the compound's front fence, chanting and shouting.

Using makeshift slingshots, the inmates hurled rocks and chunks of concrete from the floors of their huts. They tossed sticks and plastic water bottles filled with sand. They lit plastic bags filled with flammable hand sanitizer.

Prisoners in four other compounds quickly joined in.



Former CIA contractor David Passaro, 38, center, speaks in front of the North Carolina Federal Building, where he was being held in the Wake County jail in Raleigh. Passaro was released from custody pending a trial for a June 2003 beating of a prisoner in Afghanistan who later died.

Former CIA contractor claims he's victim of abuse blame game

The Associated Press

FAYETTEVILLE, N.C. — A former CIA contractor charged with beating a prisoner in Afghanistan who later died says he was made a scapegoat as the U.S. military tries to save face after the scandals at the Abu Ghraib prison in Iraq.

David Passaro, facing four counts of assault, denied he played any role in the death of the Afghan prisoner, who was suspected of being a terrorist.

"After Abu Ghraib, the U.S. was going to take a stand on the issue. There had to be someone on the blame line, and it's not going to be the military," Passaro told The Fayetteville Observer in his first interview since his arrest last year.

Military police guarding Iraqi detainees at Abu Ghraib have been charged with abusing and humiliating them. The alleged ringleader, Army Reserve Sgt. Charles Graner Jr., was convicted and sentenced to 10 years in prison. Others still face charges.

Passaro, a former Special Forces soldier recruited by the CIA, is the only civilian facing federal charges in a case involving a detainee in military custody.

Passaro, 38, is accused of beating Abdul Wali while he was interrogated for two days at the U.S. base in Afghanistan in June 2003. Wali later died. Passaro

could face a maximum of 40 years in prison. His lawyers have argued that he was protecting the nation against terrorists and should not be prosecuted because he was following directives from the president and his administration.

They also contend that the alleged beating occurred outside the jurisdiction of U.S. courts.

Passaro worked for the CIA in Afghanistan from May to July 2003. He was part of a four-man CIA team based at a remote base near the Pakistan border in an area known as a crossing point for Taliban and al-Qaida fighters. The camp was under the command of Special Forces soldiers.

Passaro told the newspaper the military asked him to talk with Wali. He would not say who or give any detail about what happened when he questioned the man, who was a suspect in rocket attacks on the base. "This guy was no innocent sheep herder," Passaro said. "The guy was a terrorist." Wali was the only prisoner at the base and was never in the CIA's custody, Passaro said.

Passaro's indictment was announced in June by then-U.S. Attorney General John Ashcroft. He remains under house arrest. Passaro said he is confident he will be cleared at his trial, which is scheduled to begin May 2. "I am going to be vindicated of all this," Passaro said. "I have faith in the Lord and I have faith in the system."

British soldier's Iraq abuse case goes to jury

BY MATT SURMAN

The Associated Press

OSNABRUECK, Germany — A British soldier accused of abusing Iraqi detainees should be acquitted, his attorney said Monday, urging the jury at his court-martial not to be swayed by dismay in Britain over photos of the incident.

Lance Cpl. Mark Cooley, 25, is one of three soldiers from the Royal Regiment of Fusiliers who have been on trial at a British base here since Jan. 18.

He has pleaded not guilty to misconduct for simulating a punch and a kick against a captive and cruel misconduct for lifting another bound detainee on a forklift and driving it.

His attorney, Stephen Vullo, has argued he was only transporting the Iraqi to the shade on the forklift, and that he genuinely regrets posting the photos and meant no cruelty — something the prosecution needs to prove to convict him of the second charge.

Referring to expressions of disgust from politicians, including Prime Minister Tony Blair, after the photos were published by British newspapers, Vullo urged the military jury not to be swayed.

"Some politicians would like you to convict because it's political expedient," he said. "You

know the difference between political expediency and your conscience."

He said the only reason to convict Cooley would be to appease the Iraqi mob. "The same mob who dragged bodies through the streets," he said. "Let's show them what British justice is."

In addition to Cooley, Cpl. Daniel Kenyon, 33, has pleaded not guilty to aiding and abetting the abuse of detained Iraqi looters and failing to report it.

The third defendant, Lance Cpl. Darren Larkin, 30, has pleaded guilty to one count of battery, acknowledging he was the man shown in a photo standing with both feet on a tied-up Iraqi lying on the ground. He is awaiting sentencing.

A fourth soldier, Fusilier Gary Barlam, has been sentenced in the case. The judge, Michael Hunter, has imposed restrictions on Barlam's trial that bar reporting details.

In his summary remarks, Hunter also admonished the seven-member jury not to pay attention to the publicity surrounding the case. "You will, I assume, have heard or have read of these statements," Hunter said. "I must ask you, gentlemen, to put them firmly and completely out of your mind."

A verdict was expected no later than Tuesday.

Italian journalists leaving Iraq after latest alert

ROME — Several Italian journalists were leaving Iraq after Monday a security alert linked to the danger of kidnappings, news reports said. News agencies ANSA and Apcom said at least three Italian journalists were leaving Iraq after a warning from intelligence services.

One of the journalists, Corriere della Sera correspondent Lorenzo Cremonesi, told private TV SKY TG24 that he was leaving Amman, Jordan, after receiving a warning. "We received this pressing suggestion the day before yesterday to leave Iraq," Cremonesi said. Agostino Mauricoli, a journalist from state broadcaster RAI, was quoted by ANSA as saying the journalists were "asked to leave immediately because of a warning, presumably from intelligence services, about the possibility of abductions of Italian journalists."

The Italian Foreign Ministry said it has been urging Italian journalists not to work in Iraq for several weeks.

The Italian government is working to secure the release of Italian journalist Giuliana Sgrena, who was abducted in Baghdad on Feb. 4.

From The Associated Press

Routine mission ends with Purple Hearts

Three soldiers get medals after losing legs in attack

BY CARY LEIDER VOGGIN
Colorado Springs (Colo.) Gazette

COLORADO SPRINGS, Colo. — Sgt. Travis Williams turned from the driver's hatch toward the screams behind him but couldn't see through the smoke.

Pain seared his shoulder and arm, but the young soldier kept driving.

He floored the "track" — the armored personnel carrier — intent on saving himself and the five other Fort Carson, Colo., soldiers inside.

"Finally, I looked back again, and the smoke was cleared."

The interior was red with blood. Three soldiers lay there, each with a leg blown off.

A shoulder-fired rocket, about the diameter of a quarter, had pierced the carrier.

It hit Pfc. Tristan Wyatt first, slicing through his right thigh.

He lay propped in the back right corner. Sgt. Erick Castro was on an adjacent bench, a gaping hole where his left leg was supposed to be.

The rocket hit Sgt. Mike Meinen last, exploding his right leg.

Rocket's toll

As the battle raged around them, Sgt. Jose Graulau took over Meinen's 50-caliber machine gun and blasted into the fields.

Spc. Matthew Cabrera began tying tourniquets. Castro's wound was so severe, though, that his tourniquet was useless.

"Tristan's (thigh) was completely severed," Meinen said. "He picked it up and wedged it underneath the rest of his leg to try to keep it elevated so he wouldn't bleed out."

Meinen's own leg was hanging by mere strands of tendon and skin.

Still, he tried to reassure the others.

"I grabbed Tristan's hand. He looked at me and he's like, 'Are



Tristan Wyatt talks at his Denver apartment about events the day he lost his right leg in a rocket attack in Iraq.

we gonna die in this track?' I told him 'no.' And he was like, 'How do you know?' I said, 'Sgt. Meinen said so, damn it. We're not going to die. We've got better things in life planned for us.'"

Meinen said he remembers locking eyes with Williams, the driver.

Their legs had blown open with such force that bone fragments had wedged into Williams' shoulder and arm.

It would take another 40 minutes before Williams could maneuver the carrier back to base.

Protecting the road

Aug. 25, 2003, started off the same as other days for the soldiers charged with ensuring Route 10 between Khadijah and Fallujah was safe for a supply convoy.

The patrol was old hat for the members of 43rd Combat Engi-

neer Company, 3rd Armored Cavalry Regiment. They had done it about 20 times.

Their orders: Look for roadside bombs.

Halfway into the patrol, Cabrera saw someone lurking in tall weeds in the field between the road and the Euphrates River.

"As soon as he saw it, he bumped me and he pointed at the guy," Graulau said.

"RPGs started flying from that field. It was like three of them at one time," Williams said of the rocket-propelled grenades.

Dozens of insurgents were crouched in a trench across the field and ducking behind a dirt berm.

Williams turned the carrier and headed into the field toward the enemy. The other two vehicles stayed on the road to provide cover.

"I could hear everyone shouting," Williams said.

That's when the rocket hit.

Wyatt felt dizzy, fell back into the carrier and looked at his leg and the gore spattered around him.

Meinen didn't know what had hit him, either.

"I just felt like somebody, you know, pulled on my leg and I kind of fell down. So I was in the hatch and I stood back up and I kept fighting. I looked down, and it was pretty awesome. You only got one leg down there."

A tank was sent to lead them back to base.

Williams worried the carrier would quit. The rocket had pierced the engine, spewing antifreeze and oil.

"As soon as I pulled in the gate, the track died," he said.

Williams took a shower and was back at work the next day.

His buddies were on their way home.

Not built for an office

Meinen said it wasn't until he



PHOTOS FROM COLORADO SPRINGS (COLO.) GAZETTE/RET

Mike Meinen sits with his wife, Amber, at their home in Security, Colo. Meinen lost part of his right leg during an ambush while on patrol in Iraq.

got to Walter Reed Army Medical Center in Washington, D.C., that he realized how blessed he was.

"At first, I was pretty bummed.

I was a pretty disgruntled young man. But the third day I was in Walter Reed, I met this guy, he was miss-

ing two legs and an arm.

"For me to be upset while this kid's happy to be alive, it really changed my whole attitude."

A second blessing also came during his monthlong stay.

He met daughter Abbigail, born while he was in Iraq.

Meinen, who turned 26 on Feb. 13, had hoped to remain in the Army, where he found brotherhood and camaraderie. "I wanted to stay in, but I wanted to stay in as a combat leader. I'm a helluva leader."

He said his superiors suggested that without a leg, he should think about leaving from behind a desk.

"I said, 'No. I'm not built for an

office.'"

Still, he decided to make the Pike Peak, Colo., area home rather than return to his home state of Idaho. He and his wife, Amber, bought a house in Security, Colo., last fall and expect a second child

around the Fourth of July.

All six of the soldiers who were in the carrier that day received Purple Hearts.

Castro, who turns 25 this month, returned to Southern California, where he attends Santa Ana Community College.

Wyatt, 22, lives in Lone Tree, Colo., south of Denver, but plans to move to Washington, D.C., for a job with the Veterans Affairs Department.

Graulau was assigned to Fort Benning, Ga., in September and is in airborne school. Cabrera was transferred to Fort Hood, Texas, and was recently promoted.

Williams, a 22-year-old sergeant who got married after his return, is the only one left at Fort Carson and is preparing to return to Iraq.



Erick Castro, 24, a former sergeant with the 43rd Combat Engineer Company, 3rd Armored Cavalry Regiment, was one of three, including Meinen and Wyatt, whose legs were severed by a rocket that hit their carrier.



PHOTOS BY RICK EMERT/Stars and Stripes

Left: Family members cheer, wave flags as 2nd Battalion, 63rd Armor Regiment soldiers march into the Hilltop Sports Center on Sunday in Vilseck, Germany. About 200 soldiers from 2-63 Armor returned from Iraq in two waves, with more expected to arrive Monday. **Above:** 1st Sgt. Andrew Richard kisses wife Cathy as 2-year-old Adam looks on.

Germany unit receives heroes' welcome

Soldiers return to Vilseck community after deployment to Iraq

BY RICK EMERT
Stars and Stripes

VILSECK, Germany — About 200 2nd Battalion, 63rd Armor Regiment soldiers returned from Iraq on Sunday in two waves to a post decorated with hundreds of signs welcoming the troops home.

Nearly every fence, light post and traffic sign had a greeting attached.

There was no question that the soldiers had arrived at Rose Barracks as military police vehicles with lights flashing and sirens blaring escorted the buses through the post.

Gathered at the Hilltop Sports Center, families waited for the soldiers to turn in their weapons and equipment before they marched into the gym to cheers and waving flags.

"I'm excited; it's hard to believe he's ac-

tually home," said Lynn Thomas, of husband, Staff Sgt. James Thomas, as she waited for him. "He's actually here, on this post somewhere."

"On one hand it seems like he wasn't gone that long, but on the other it seems like he's been gone forever."

Her kids, James and Annie, were restless as they waited out the final moments of the deployment.

"I can't believe he's finally home," James said. "Now I have someone to ride my mountain bike with."

The Thomases said the deployment was difficult, but they adjusted to the separation. "It was really hard at first, but then I sort of got used to it," Annie said.

Thomas had been deployed to Kosovo just before heading to Iraq, and spent 23 of the past 28 months deployed, Lynn Thomas said.

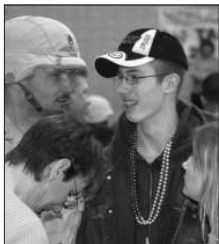
Some of the family members sitting in the bleachers were only there for support. Petra Kulp's husband, Lt. Col. Jeffrey Kulp, the 2-63 Armor battalion commander, was due to return on Monday.

"I can wait one more day," Kulp said. "I just want to him to get here safe."

After a year of separation, Kulp said it was good to see the soldiers and families reunited. "When you look at the children with their parent who has been deployed, it's just wonderful," she said. "It's the best thing that has happened all year."

Ethan Trevino, 2, will finally get to play with his dad. "Capt. Brandon Trevino" said the first thing he wants to do when he gets home is play with his son," said Bess Trevino, as she waited for the soldiers to march into the gym. "I'm so anxious and excited. He's here, and he is safe."

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Staff Sgt. James Thomas talks to his family, from left, wife Lynn, son James and daughter Annie in Vilseck, Germany. Thomas returned home from Iraq on Sunday.

Italy's businesses see cloudy future from smoking ban

BY SANDRA JONTZ
AND KENT HARRIS
Stars and Stripes

NAPLES, Italy — If anything, life since Italy's ban on indoor smoking has gotten better for Chief Petty Officer — and smoker — Joe Campbell.

He likes walking into restaurants in Naples, where the aromas of pizzas and pasta waft versus the stale stench of tobacco. But what he appreciates most is that his wife and two children aren't subjected to the vice of others, including himself, said Campbell, a Seabee stationed at Naval Support Activity Naples.

On Jan. 10, the Italian government imposed one of Europe's toughest smoking bans and prohibited folks from lighting up in all indoor public places that do not have designated smoking areas with their own ventilation systems.

The change felt around Italy was not considered drastic on American buses throughout the country, which have banned smoking inside public buildings for years.

Smokers face fines from \$36 to \$363 if caught smoking in banned areas, which

Owners, servicemembers cope with change

pre-ban included pubs, restaurants, trains, movie theaters, grocery stores, offices, and even hospital corridors and stairwells, to name a few.

Owners or managers who fail to stop to it or to call police face a maximum fine of \$2904.

In the first two weeks after the ban, Alfonso Trincione, owner of Madigan's Irish Pub in Pozzuoli, a popular Naples hangout for Americans and British living in the area, said he saw a decrease of 90 percent of his clientele.

"I was seriously damaged," he said. On a good night, he rakes between 1,500 euros and 2,000 euros.

Tallies for the first few weekends, his most popular nights, topped a mere 150 euros, he said.

"I was nearly ruined."

Slowly, and thankfully he said, customers are returning.

"They just know to go outside to smoke.

And I think that's OK with them," Trincione said.

Vic Bonaventura, owner of Vic's Bar and Grill in Gaeta said he invested "quite a lot of money" (though wouldn't say how much) for outdoor heaters to accommodate his patrons.

"People just go outside and are smoking underneath the heaters. It didn't hurt my business," he said of the ban.

Chief Petty Officer David Duersen, a nonsmoker for four weeks, said he disagrees with the ban in pub establishments that serve alcohol, saying people who frequent bars do so knowing smokers frequent such establishments.

Two civilian employees at Caserma Edlerle in Vicenza said they noticed a change almost immediately after the mid-January ban.

"I was in the mall and about to light up when I realized that no one else was smoking," said Greg Thacher. "So I didn't light up."

"I was there on Sunday, the last day before it kicked off and there was just a cloud [of smoke] in there," said Carl Smith, a nonsmoker.

Thacher said he doesn't mind much going out in the cold to light up.

"It doesn't bother me. I was in the States just six months ago, so I'm used to it."

Airman 1st Class Marion Scott, a nonsmoker stationed at Aviano Air Base, said going to a club or out to eat now is a nicer experience.

"I like it," he said of the ban. "It's a lot better. I hate going outside and smelling like cigarette smoke."

Airman 1st Class Thomas Wakeman is a smoker, but he says that being in public inside now is nicer as well. "The air is different. It's fresher."

"He said it's chilly in northern Italy, though."

"Right now, it's cold outside so [smoking] is kind of a pain."

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GI brings Iraqi boy to U.S. as foster child

The Associated Press

MAUSTON, Wis. — Capt. Scott Southworth took his soldiers to a Baghdad orphanage in 2003 to befriend the children, and a small boy with cerebral palsy immediately returned the favor, crawling across the floor to sit next to him.

More than a year later, Southworth has made a return trip to Iraq and brought 11-year-old Ala'a to Mauston, where Southworth now works as Juneau County district attorney.

Physicians, social workers and some politicians in Wisconsin all came together to help Southworth bring his new foster son home.

Southworth, 32, who is single, knew the alternative for Ala'a was life in a government orphanage with little chance of adequate medical care or an education. Iraqi law won't allow Southworth to adopt Ala'a, but he was able to bring the boy to Wisconsin last month under a "humanitarian parole" that lets him make sure the boy gets medical care and goes to school. Humanitarian parole lasts a year, and Southworth says it can be extended or other immigration possibilities will be available.



Capt. Scott Southworth, 32, carries his foster son Ala'a in their apartment in Mauston, Wis. Southworth first met Ala'a, who has cerebral palsy, when he took his soldiers to a Baghdad orphanage in 2003.

"He will be staying with me," as head of the Wisconsin Army said Southworth, who served in National Guard's 32nd Military Iraq from June 2003 to July 2004 Police Company.

Ala'a understands both Arabic and English, but must use a wheelchair and can't fully use his arms.

Southworth and his fellow soldiers visited the Mother Teresa Orphanage in Baghdad a few times a week for several months. "Ala'a really adopted me," he said. "By the time we left that first day, he was

trying to take off my watch or to do anything he could to keep me from leaving the orphanage."

He learned the orphanage would eventually transfer Ala'a to a government facility for older children and adults.

"One of the Iraqi doctors told me that if Ala'a went there, there was a good chance his life was over — and that wasn't just because he'd be warehoused in a room, he meant his life might be over," Southworth said.

When he returned home last summer, he launched his campaign for district attorney and his effort to bring Ala'a home.

"Humanitarian parole is very

rare," he said. "I don't know if there has been another case like this."

Ala'a isn't eligible for Southworth's health insurance, but Wisconsin doctors have promised to provide free care. Lt. Gov. Barbara Lawton offered to help with letters of recommendation, as did Sen. Russ Feingold and Rep. Mark Green.

Southworth started his new job Jan. 3 as district attorney in Mauston, about 60 miles northwest of Madison. A few weeks later, he learned the U.S. Department of Homeland Security had approved the humanitarian parole, and he soon was on his way to Iraq.

Ala'a was waiting for him at the Baghdad airport. Now he is enrolled in middle school, and already has two friends.

"I think I've been the lucky one," Southworth said. "He's making my life more fulfilling. It's making, my lifestyle used to be focused on me. Now I have someone else to focus on."

"I think I've been the lucky one. ... He's making my life more fulfilling."

Capt. Scott Southworth

Sailors now part of the 'enemy' they once fought

BY JASON CHUDY

Stars and Stripes

NAPLES, Italy — Times sure have changed since Petty Officers 1st Class Vadim Gudim and Sergey Kruglov first entered military service.

Gudim, a former Soviet Army tank driver, was trained to defend against a seaborne invasion by enemy naval forces. Kruglov, who did six years as a naval academy cadet, trained to fight as a navigator on a submarine.

In each case, they were training to fight the U.S. Navy.

Now, both Russian natives are serving in that same U.S. Navy at Naval Support Activity Naples. Gudim as a security patrolman and Kruglov as the assistant leading petty officer in the chief master-at-arms office.

Gudim started his military career as a conscript in the Soviet Army between 1986 and 1988, serving in the Russian Far East.

Kruglov did his mandatory service as a cadet at the high engineering marine academy in the Black Sea port of Odessa between 1981 and 1987. There, he earned a reserve lieutenant's commission and a degree as a merchant mariner.

"When you graduated you got two degrees — a military and a civilian degree," he explained.

Kruglov joined a merchant ship in the Soviet Far East and later another back in the Black Sea, eventually rising to second mate before the collapse of the Soviet Union.

After that fall, Kruglov worked for Greek and German shipping companies before "winning" a U.S. green card in 1995. He moved from Odessa to San Francisco that July, but his stay there didn't last long.

"In September I was already in Chicago

for boot camp," he said. Though this was his first enlistment, it wasn't his first encounter with the U.S. Navy.

He had seen two American warships while serving as a cadet — a frigate in the Persian Gulf and an aircraft carrier in the Suez Canal.

"The frigate tried to stop our boat," he said about the 1984 encounter in which his ship was delivering weapons to Iraq during its war with Iran.

"I can see it (the frigate) sending a (flashing light) signal to our boat," Kruglov said. "Our captain said, 'No, our Russian boat will never stop.'"

"I am thinking about it, and now I am in the U.S. military," he said.

Both said that the conscripted Soviet military and all-volunteer U.S. force are worlds apart.

"The whole idea is different," Gudim said. "It's like a prison (in the Soviet Army). You were there against your will."

"Here, I volunteered," he said. "I liked the idea of serving my new country."

Gudim first enlisted in 1993, serving six years as a machinery repairman in San Francisco and Everett, Wash., before leaving active duty for the Reserve.

He was recalled to active duty in Oct. 2001 while working as a computer programmer.

"I was ripped off my computer desk to guard a submarine base," he said jokingly.

He's since decided to remain on active duty and also changed jobs to become a master-at-arms, the Navy's security police.

"I'm in it for the global war on terrorism," he said.

Kruglov said he'll also be making the U.S. Navy a career, having already served on two warships.

"I like being on the bridge (of a ship)," he said. "You see all the sunrises and sunsets, the waves and the wind."

E-mail Jason Chudy at: chudy@mail.strips.com



Top: Petty Officers 1st Class Sergey Kruglov, left, and Vadim Gudim, both with the Naval Support Activity in Naples, Italy, hold up photos from when they served in the Soviet military in the 1980s.

JASON CHUDY/Stars and Stripes

Left: Gudim had his first military experience as a soldier in the Soviet Army. Above: Kruglov spent six years as a cadet at an engineering academy in the Soviet Union.

Photos courtesy of Stars and Stripes

IN THE WORLD

EU praises Spain's vote approving constitution

BY RAF CASERT
The Associated Press

BRUSSELS, Belgium — European Union officials on Monday praised Spain's approval of the EU constitution, and British Foreign Secretary Jack Straw said it may help win over skeptical Britons so they, too, will approve the charter.

The British government has yet to set a date for its referendum on the constitution that the EU leaders signed in Rome on Oct. 29.

There is considerable anti-EU sentiment in Britain, and a 'no' would prevent the charter from taking effect across the 25-nation EU.

EU officials, disappointed by Spain's low 42 percent turnout, said voter apathy may hinder winning support in nine other EU nations that will also hold referenda.

Spaniards voted by a 76.7 percent margin for the charter, but their turnout rate was the lowest since democracy was restored after the death of dictator Gen. Francisco Franco in 1975.

"We are all worried about low voter turnout," said Margot Wallström, vice president of the European Commission, who is charge of trying to generate public support for the charter in European public opinion.

Apart from Britain, the constitution faces uphill struggles in referenda in France, Poland and the Czech Republic. It must be ratified in all EU countries to take effect. If approved, the first European-wide constitution will come into force in 2007.

An EU study showed last month that almost nine out of 10 European Union citizens know little or nothing about the EU charter, leading to a high level of indecision when it comes to approving the document.

President Bush greets members of the audience following Monday's address at the Concert Nobel in Brussels, Belgium.

AP



Bush urges European allies to move beyond Iraq split

President: Unity needed to create Mideast reforms

BY TOM RAUM
The Associated Press

BRUSSELS, Belgium — President Bush appealed to Europe on Monday to move beyond animosities over Iraq and join forces in encouraging democratic reforms across the Middle East. He also prodded Russia to reverse a crackdown on political dissent, demanded that Iran end its nuclear ambitions and told Syria to get out of Lebanon.

Bush did not rule out using military force in Iraq, saying all options remain on the table. But, addressing widespread concerns in Europe that Iraq is the next U.S. target after Iraq, Bush said "Iran is... different from Iraq. We're in the early stages of diplomacy."

Bush's speech on a five-day fence-mending trip to Europe was aimed at both U.S. and European audiences. "In a new century, the alliance of America and Europe is the main pillar of our security," he said.

He used the word "alliance" 12 times in his speech to underscore his aim to repair relations frayed by the war in Iraq.

But not all his speech was conciliatory.

Bush had pointed criticism for Russia three days ahead of a meeting with President Vladimir Putin

in Slovakia. Referring to Putin's recent steps to consolidate power, roll back democratic reforms and curb press and political freedoms, Bush said: "We must always remind Russia that our alliance stands for a free press, a vital opposition, the sharing of power and the rule of law. The United States should place democratic reform at the heart of their dialogue with Russia."

Bush's speech was delivered in an ornate ballroom of Brussels' Concert Nobel hall before an audience of business leaders, academics and diplomats. It was greeted mostly by subdued applause.

Bush urged greater "tangible political, economic and security assistance to the world's newest democracy," Iraq. And he called for European allies to stand by fledgling democracy movements throughout the world, and especially in the Middle East.

Bush said he recognized that full democracy could take awhile to root. Even in the United States, democracy came slowly, Bush said, pointing out that women and minorities were not treated equally "and that struggle hasn't ended."

Bush had sharp words for Syria, calling on leaders in Damascus to withdraw its forces from Lebanon. The United States has withdrawn its ambassador from Syria for consultations to protest a suspected link between the assassination and Syria.

If food is the stuff of diplomacy, dine on

The Associated Press

PARIS — At one of their last meals together, President Bush said French President Jacques Chirac had cheeseburgers.

"It was excellent," the French leader said.

Although they have had no stomach for each other's policies at times, the transatlantic sparring partners seemingly share an appreciation for good food during diplomacy.

On Monday, Bush was holding a dinner for Chirac in Brussels, Belgium, the president's first stop on a fence-mending trip to Europe.

His choice of Chirac as dinner guest, one of the most outspoken critics of the U.S.-led war in Iraq, reflected Bush's stated hope for the visit to settle rocky transatlantic relationships. Bush says it's time now for France and the United States to leave disagreements behind and work together on the world front.

Sharing meals doesn't mean Bush and Chirac will suddenly see eye-to-eye on the numerous issues where they differ. And dinners are not always great photo opportunities, as Bush's father knows only too well. Former President George H. W. Bush vomited during a 1992 state dinner in Tokyo — an embarrassment aides blamed on stomach flu.

Bush and Chirac last dined together in June, when Bush hosted leaders from the Group of Eight industrial nations at a summit on St. Island, Georgia.

Chirac has obvious affection for the United States, where he spent a part of his youth working at a diner and fell in love for the first time. Aides to the French leader insist the differences between Bush and Chirac have been political, not personal.

Garbage heap collapse

JAKARTA, Indonesia — A 36-foot-tall heap of garbage collapsed onto a neighborhood Monday, killing 19 people and crushing dozens of houses, officials said.

More than 100 people were missing in the collapse near the West Java town of Bandung, which came after days of torrential rains, said police chief Capt. Sucitani Rahni.

Residents and scavengers who eke out a living by sorting Europe's refuse and reselling recyclable items also were believed to have been caught in the collapse.

"We fear that more than 100 residents died because 46 houses were crushed by debris while families slept in the early morning," Rahni said.

She said rescuers were using heavy machinery to remove the garbage.

From wire reports

Clinton, Bush tour tsunami-ravaged Sri Lanka

BY CHRISTOPHER TORCHIA
The Associated Press

WELIGAMA, Sri Lanka — Former Presidents George H.W. Bush and Bill Clinton spent time with child survivors of Asia's tsunami on Monday, getting clues to the emotional impact of the disaster after surveying the massive physical destruction it caused.

In the fishing town of Weligama on Sri Lanka's battered southern coast, Clinton and Bush visited temporary houses built of cinderblocks and iron sheeting and sat with children who danced, sang and drew pictures of their experiences.

"Some of them are still drawing about the tsunami, and some of them are drawing life as they remember it and as they want it to be again," Clinton said.

The two former leaders toured facilities built with U.S. government aid to house people whose homes were washed away in the Dec. 26 tsunami, which killed more than 30,000 people in Sri Lanka.

Earlier, they inspected water purification equipment in Koggala, another hard-hit southern town. The American delegation flew by helicopter from the capital, Colombo, to the south, traveling over coastlines still strewn with rubble and debris.

The current president's father praised U.S. troops involved in tsunami relief, though he said he understood there might be some apprehension about their presence.

"I'm very proud of what these guys did," Bush said. "It's a humanitarian mission that I think is well understood here."



AP

Former Presidents Bill Clinton, left, and George H.W. Bush talk with children Monday as they visit displaced residents from the December tsunami in Weligama, Sri Lanka.

Narrow win keeps Schroeder's party in power

High unemployment rate blamed for Social Democrats' poor showing in state race

BY TONY CZUCZKA
The Associated Press

BERLIN — Chancellor Gerhard Schroeder's party expressed relief Monday after a last-minute turnaround staved off an opposition triumph in a state election, but its losses at the polls raised new questions about the Social Democrats' hold on power.

Analysts and commentators said Germany's stubbornly high unemployment was a key reason why support for the party fell more than four percentage points Sunday, to 38.7 percent, in the small northern state of Schleswig-Holstein.

With elections due in May in the party's stronghold of North Rhine-Westphalia, western Germany's industrial heartland, that state's Social Democratic governor expressed concern Monday.

"This hardly is the momentum I was hoping for," Peer Steinbrueck told reporters in Berlin. "The result in Schleswig-Holstein is a reminder that we have to mobilize more" of our voters, he said.

The main opposition Christian Democrats emerged as the strongest party from Sunday's vote, but together with a center-right ally missed the majority in the state legislature by one seat. A tiny party representing the state's Danish-speaking minority was left as kingmak-

er, but it has indicated it would actually support the current government of Social Democrats and Greens.

The Social Democrats, who have governed Schleswig-Holstein's roughly 2 million people since 1988, posted their worst showing in the state since 1958.

Angela Merkel, head of the Christian Democrats and a potential Schroeder challenger in national elections next year, claimed momentum from her party's showing.

"That the result sends a signal for the next election... is clear," she said Monday.

The Social Democrats made the best of it, as Schleswig-Holstein governor Heide Simonis got a round of applause at party headquarters in Berlin, a grinning Schroeder at her side.

"Heide Simonis will stay state premier," party chief Franz Muentefering said. "We're happy about that."

Projections based on partial returns gave a center-right alliance a one-seat edge in the state legislature for most of Sunday evening, but that margin evaporated.

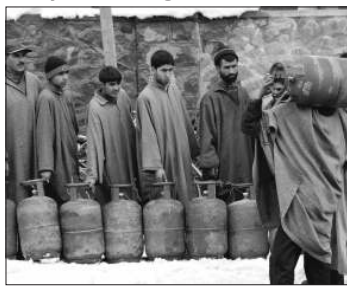
Schleswig-Holstein was the first electoral test after cuts in jobless benefits pushed by Schroeder's government took effect.

Germany's jobless total shot over 5 million in January and the unemployment rate rose to 12.1 percent following changes to how the jobless are counted.



Schleswig-Holstein's State Governor Heide Simonis of the Social Democratic Party is hugged by German Chancellor Gerhard Schroeder Berlin on Monday, the day after the elections in the northern German state of Schleswig-Holstein. Simonis kept her job in a narrow win by the Social Democrats.

Heavy snow taking its toll on Kashmir



Kashmiri Muslims wait to receive cooking gas cylinders Monday in Srinagar, India. Avalanches and lands triggered by heavy snowfall in India's portion of Kashmir wreaked havoc across the Himalayan region Monday, killing at least 154 people and leaving 360 missing. Indian Air Force pilots were flying sorties to bring fuel, milk and other necessities to affected areas. At least 1,000 houses have been damaged in the region, which has received up to 15 feet of snow since Friday. In northwestern Pakistan, authorities reported Monday 80 more had died in the past week because of rain and heavy snow.

AP

Adultery punishment involves girl, 2

MULTAN, Pakistan — A Pakistan village council has punished a 20-year-old man for adultery by ordering the betrothal of his 2-year-old niece to the husband of the woman with whom he had the alleged affair, police said on Monday.

Tribal elders meeting last week also ordered Mohammed Akmal to pay \$3,800 to the wronged husband, who has since divorced his wife.

Police said that the council in Kacha Chohan village decreed that the 2-year-old girl would be married to Mohammed Altaf when she turns 18.

Vienna zoo defends safety measures

VIENNA, Austria — Officials at the Vienna zoo defended its safety measures Monday, a day after a young elephant bull crushed a keeper to death in an attack that came just three years after jaguars fatally mauled another zoo worker.

The elephant, Abu, became aggressive Sunday as his chief keeper, Gerd Kohl, was showering him. The animal pinned Kohl to the wall and impaled him with his tusks. Kohl, an elephant expert who had cared for Abu since his birth at the zoo almost four years ago, died immediately. He was 39.

From wire reports

U.N. refugee chief resigns over harassment charges

BY EDITH M. LEDERER
The Associated Press

UNITED NATIONS — After months of criticism, Secretary-General Kofi Annan decided that U.N. refugee chief Rüd Lubbers had to go because of the growing controversy over allegations that the former Dutch prime minister had sexually harassed female staffers.

Lubbers didn't go easily. He resigned Sunday but proclaimed his innocence, saying he felt insulted and accusing Annan of giving in to "media pressure."

At a meeting with Annan on Friday, U.N. diplomats said the secretary-general offered the U.N. High Commissioner for Refugees two choices — resign or face suspension and charges of breaking U.N. rules.



Lubbers

Allegations first surfaced last year that he had made unwanted sexual advances toward a female employee, identified in media reports as an American. But it was only on Friday that the British newspaper The Independent published the first detailed description of her allegations and statements from four other women who didn't file official complaints but claimed Lubbers sexually harassed them.

As the United Nations struggles to improve its image in the face of scandals over the U.N. oil-for-food program and sexual abuse by U.N. peacekeepers in Congo, diplomats said Annan decided that Lubbers had become a liability. He was also a fighter.

After defiantly telling reporters that Annan had not asked for his resignation and he intended to complete his five-year term, Lubbers flew home to Geneva on Friday. But after he left U.N. headquarters, Annan's office contradicted the refugee chief, saying the prime topic of the meeting was his future.

Apparently knowing what was coming, Lubbers, 65, decided to resign before being suspended.

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Leonardo center of art mystery

Discovery of fingerprint may lead to change in attribution for artwork

BY MARTA FALCONI

The Associated Press

ROME — It's an artistic mystery whose hottest clue is a fingerprint.

"The Adoration of the Christ Child" is attributed to Fra Bartolomeo, but a newly discovered fingerprint in the paint, along with stylistic similarities, are making experts think of Leonardo da Vinci, who sometimes left a digital imprint on his works as a sort of signature.

Near the completion of the painting's yearlong restoration, a kind of yellowish halo could be seen in the sky in the upper left," the chief restorer, Elisabetta Zatti, said, describing the fingerprint she found.

Attribution of the painting has long been in question, and some illustrious names have come up through the centuries — Raphael, Ghirlandajo, Lorenzo di Credi. The key may lie in Krakow, Poland, where a da Vinci masterpiece, "Lady with an Ermine," bears the Renaissance master's fingerprint. Photos of the "Adoration" will be flown there next month for comparison.

Da Vinci was big on code. Apart from fingerprints, he wrote backward in his notebooks and used such symbolism as wild



ITALIAN SUPERINTENDENCE OF ROMAN MUSEUMS/AP

"The Adoration of the Christ Child" has been attributed to Fra Bartolomeo, but a fingerprint may point to Leonardo da Vinci.

primrose, which represents resurrection, and the blue veronica flower, symbol of the eyes of the Virgin Mary. Primrose and veronica have shown up in the restored "Adoration."

The work, hanging in Rome's Galleria Borghese, is believed to have been painted in the late 15th century or early 16th, and depicts Joseph and Mary gazing down at the infant Jesus.

Perhaps the most striking revelation are Mary's large and some-

what masculine hands, a hallmark of many female figures in da Vinci's work.

"There are many details that make one think of Leonardo, like the stylistic power, the technique of sfumato, the virile hands, the eyelids, and the expressive intensity of Saint Joseph, as well as that it's a work full of symbolic meaning," Zatti said in a telephone interview.

Da Vinci pioneered sfumato, which gives outlines a hazy edge and can lend both dreaminess and sense of heightened realism to a work. Many artists copied the technique, but da Vinci's use of it was distinct.

Alessandro Vezzosi, the director of a museum dedicated to da Vinci near Florence who was not involved in the restoration, said the discovery was interesting, but cautioned that more research was needed.

"Fingerprints are very useful, and Leonardo's paintings and manuscripts are full of them," Vezzosi said. "If that is his fingerprint, it means at least that he has worked on that painting."

But Zatti said that if the fingerprint turns out to be da Vinci's, the painting could probably be attributed to him.

"It's difficult to imagine he would have left it on the painting of someone else," she said.

Malaysian employees directed to smile more

The Associated Press

KUALA LUMPUR, Malaysia — Civil servants in Malaysia must learn good manners and smile more in a campaign to change their image of being rude and lazy, and government officials plan to monitor their progress by posing as members of the public, a report said Monday.

The training courses for the 850,000-strong civil service are aimed at making those who deal with the public more courteous, the Star newspaper reported, citing Samsudin Osman, the chief secretary to the government.

Senior civil servants will go undercover as members of the public for phone calls to government agencies to hunt for employees who are rude or inefficient, Samsudin said, though he didn't specify what punishment they might face.

The courses focus on things like what it means to smile and how we should treat our clients or the polite way to answer the telephone," the daily quoted Samsudin as saying.

Nordin Abdul Hamid, union chief for government employees, said the courses should be held more regularly, saying "I believe there is need for civil servants to be more courteous."



Mexico's Environment Department said that 75 percent fewer monarch butterflies have appeared in 2004 compared with previous years.

Lower butterfly count blamed on U.S., Canada

BY MARK STEVENSON

The Associated Press

MEXICO CITY — The population of monarch butterflies has suffered a drastic decline, but Mexico — where deforestation has found devastated monarch wintering grounds — is now blaming the United States and Canada.

Mexico's Environment Department said on Wednesday that 75 percent fewer monarch butterflies have appeared in 2004 compared with previous years.

It blamed cold weather and intensive farming — including genetically modified crops — in areas of the United States and Canada where the butterflies

spend the summer and reproduce.

In past years, Mexico acknowledged the butterflies were affected by illegal logging of the central Mexico fir forests that make up the winter nesting grounds.

Activists and researchers suggested Mexico was trying to offload some of the blame, after its own highly publicized efforts to stop illegal logging ran up against often violent resistance from logging gangs.

The Mexican government said the decline was due to a number of factors, including an unusually cold summer in the United States and a high mortality rate for the butterflies in Mexico in 2003 due to cold, wet conditions.



AP

A Nissan Motor Co. research center staff watches a driver safely park a car into a spot by using its new system during a test drive Monday outside Tokyo. Using four cameras that relay live video to show the driver's blind spots. The new system puts all those four images together in an image to show what's surrounding the car from all sides and the way it would appear from above.

Nissan's smart cars ease parking stress

BY YURI KAGEYAMA

The Associated Press

YOKOSUKA, Japan — A car that swerves back into lanes on its own and a video system that makes parking a breeze were part of technological features on display by the Japanese automaker Nissan Motor Co.

The technology that reporters tried out in test drives Monday at a research center outside Tokyo is part of Nissan's efforts to make driving safer. Similar smart-car features are in the works at most of the world's top automakers, including Japanese rivals Toyota Motor Corp. and Honda Motor Co., as well as General Motors Corp. of the United States and others.

One of the features shown was a more sophisticated version of an existing warning system — already available in Nissan luxury cars in the United States and Japan — that buzzes when the car veers out of the lane.

Lane Departure Prevention combines a camera and computerized devices that control braking

for front and rear wheels that nudge the car in the right direction. No decision has been made when the new system will be available.

The feature turns off when you hit the turn signal, so you will be able to change lanes or make turns without the system kicking in.

Takao Kubozuka, general manager at the research center, said the problem with such safety features is making sure the driver doesn't rely on them too much and start driving recklessly.

"We have to strike the balance between making driving safe and letting people get away with no-hands driving," he said.

Nissan also showed a system to make squeezing into parking spots easier. No more running near-fence or smashing into fences while you back up as four cameras in the front, back and side-mirrors relay live video.

Vehicles that use a monitor to show images of a driver's blind spots taken on cameras aren't new, but Nissan's system puts together the images to create the aerial view.

IN THE STATES

Storm slams SoCal; 2 dead

The Associated Press

LOS ANGELES — Mudslides forced some people to flee their homes Monday as Southern California was soaked by a latest in a series of storms that were blamed for three deaths, stalled commuter rail service and power outages.

As much as 3 inches of rain was expected along the Southern California coast with 5 inches in the foothills, said Andrew Rorke, meteorologist for the National Weather Service. The mountains could see up to 2 feet of snow. Lesser amounts of precipitation were expected farther north, with up to 18 inches of snow possible in the Sierra Nevada.

About 30 people were evacuated from 11 homes in Glendale, north of downtown Los Angeles, because of mudslides and flooding, officials said. Three homes on an unstable hill were evacuated in nearby Pasadena.

In the coastal community of La Conchita, where a landslide



With his 4-month-old daughter Caroline tucked inside his jacket, Nathan Fairman on Sunday uses a broom to clear 6 to 8 inches of snow from his car in South Lake Tahoe, Calif.

killed 10 people last month, six families elected to leave during the night because of the heavy rain and a steady flow of mud on the bluffs behind the town, said Capt. Bill Flanagan of the Ventura County Sheriff's Department. Warnings had been issued earlier and the community about 70 miles north of Los Angeles was described as a ghost town Saturday after other residents moved out.

The latest batch of rain, snow and hail started battering the region Sunday, part of a series of storms that arrived Friday and was expected to continue into Tuesday.

Since Thursday, downtown Los Angeles had gotten 6.13 inches of rain. The city's total since July 1, the start of the region's "winter year," has reached nearly 30 inches, making it already the seventh wettest on record, said weather service forecaster Curt Kaplan. The record, 38.18 inches, was set in 1983-1984.

New England hit by yet another winter storm

The Associated Press

TAUNTON, Mass. — New Englanders should know better than to write off winter in the middle of February. But for anyone who thought the worst had passed, Mother Nature provided a chilly reminder on Monday.

Snow began falling overnight and became heavy at times during the morning commute. Fortunately, most schools were closed for the President's Day holiday and the roads were relatively empty.

"Anybody who thought winter was over wasn't

looking at the calendar," said meteorologist William Babcock at the National Weather Service in Taunton.

Forecasters predicted 4 to 7 inches for the Boston area. Hilly areas of central and northern Massachusetts could get closer to nine.

By daybreak, parts of Hampshire County in western Massachusetts already had four inches, according to the National Weather Service. State police reported numerous accidents.

Babcock said temperatures will hover around freezing for most of the week, with a colder snap expected to come Thursday and Friday.

Olympic delegation tours New York

NEW YORK — The city, digging out from a snowstorm, welcomed a warm welcome Monday for the 13 delegates charged with helping select a host city for the 2012 Summer Olympics.

"Nice to see you. Welcome," Mayor Michael Bloomberg told the International Olympic Committee evaluation committee delegates during a meet-and-greet ceremony at the Plaza Hotel. He later joked that the blanket of snow positioned the city to also make a bid for the Winter Games.

Bloomberg, accompanied by U.S. Olympic Committee chairman Peter Ueberroth, shook hands with the delegates in a conference room that bore an IOC 2012 logo on the floor. Each delegate carried a thick "2012" binder.

The evaluation commission is in town for a final round of scrutiny, evaluating the five cities still in the running for the Olympics. The group already toured Madrid and London, with Moscow and Paris left to visit. The IOC will weigh the evaluators' findings and announce its decision July 6.

Two wounded in shipyard shooting

PASCAGOULA, Miss. — A disgruntled employee opened fire Monday at a shipyard, wounding two co-workers, police said.

Police Lt. Paul Leonard identified the alleged shooter as Alexander L. Lett of Pascagoula, an employee of the Northrup Grumman Ships Systems shipyard that builds ships for the Navy and the Coast Guard.

Police said Lett tried to leave the complex after the shooting but was detained by Northrup employees and later taken into custody.

The wounded workers were taken to hospital where their conditions were not immediately available.

Northrup Grumman said in a statement that company officials were in close contact with the employees' families for support and assistance but offered no additional details on the shooting. The names of the wounded were not released.

From The Associated Press

Malcom X's family preserves his legacy 4 years after death

By MADISON J. GRAY

The Associated Press

NEW YORK — He was one of the most charismatic and feared figures in the civil rights movement, a former convict who abandoned his "slavemaster name," energized the Nation of Islam and met a violent end at 39.

Four decades after his death, Malcolm X has inspired another movement by his family, friends and scholars — one aimed at re-examining and preserving his legacy.

Leading the way are Malcolm X's daughters, who plan to convert the Audubon Ballroom in upper Manhattan — the scene of his assassination on Feb. 21, 1965 — into a history center that would catalogue his life and work, and seek to convince people he was a champion of human rights.

"It's our responsibility to make sure that we do preserve and document our history to empower future generations," said Ilyasah Shabazz, the third of six daughters born to Malcolm X and wife Betty Shabazz.

Her father's life has always defied easy definition.

Malcolm Little was the son of a preacher who was killed after receiving threats from the Ku Klux Klan. In 1946, he was arrested for robbery and spent six years in prison, emerging as a fiery Nation of Islam minister with a new name and a message that blacks should cast off white oppression "by any means necessary."

Bush feels betrayed by friend who recorded conversation, aides say

New York Daily News

NEW YORK — The White House lashed out Sunday at the "former" Bush family friend who secretly tape-recorded the future president discussing sensitive issues like gays and drug use.

Even though aides insisted there was little damaging information on the tapes, they made no effort to hide the fact that President Bush felt betrayed by conservative attorney Doug Weir.

"These were casual conversations with someone whom the president considered, or believed to be, a friend," said White House spokesman Ken Lissais.

Weir insisted he made the tapes — from 1998 to 2000 — for a book because he believed Bush would become a "pivotal figure in history," like "Churchill or Gandhi."

He propelled the Nation of Islam from a 500-member sect in 1952 into a political and religious organization with 30,000 members by 1963. His messages of black empowerment and self-sufficiency also made him an icon to blacks and others around the world, and he met with African heads of state at a time when many African nations were ending colonialism and crafting new governments.

After his split with the Nation of Islam in 1964, and an Islamic pilgrimage to Mecca, where he worshipped alongside Muslims of all colors, he began renouncing racial separatism. He returned to the United States with a new outlook on integration and plans to re-craft his message to appeal to all Americans. His new direction prompted anger among black Muslims and eventually led to his assassination in a speech at the Audubon Ballroom.

On Monday, the theater was to become the site of a commemorative event on the anniversary of Malcolm X's death. The official opening of the Malcolm X and Dr. Betty Shabazz Memorial and Education Center at the Audubon is slated for May 19, on what would have been his 80th birthday.

The center will house a multimedia environment containing documents about Malcolm X's life, including memoirs, notes, speeches, and other personal items rescued by his family and now held by the Schomburg Center for Research in Black Culture.

"I had a choice to either write propaganda about the Bushes or write accurately and fairly based on what I knew," Weir told ABC's "Good Morning America."

Weir said his publisher insisted on listening to the tapes to confirm anonymous sources he cited in his new book. The New York Times then got wind of the tapes, Weir said, and it "all became unraveled."

The disclosures could weaken support for Weir with his conservative base — and crack his renowned aura of predictability and discipline.

"It is going to be damaging," said Baruch College political scientist Doug Muzzio. "It's hypocritical to say one thing now but then say other things ... in the past."

A senior Democratic operative added, "Put aside the admission of drug use, his comments about gays are certainly not going to energize his base."

'Fear and Loathing' and Thompson found dead



Thompson

BY ROBERT WELLER
The Associated Press

ASPEN, Colo. — Hunter S. Thompson, the hard-living writer who inserted himself into his accounts of America's underbelly and popularized a first-person form of journalism in books such as "Fear and Loathing in Las Vegas," has committed suicide.

Thompson was found dead Sunday in his Aspen-area home of an apparent self-inflicted gunshot wound, sheriff's officials said. He was 67. Thompson's wife, Anita, had gone out before the shooting and was not home at the time.

He also is survived by his son, Juan Thompson.

Besides the 1972 classic about Thompson's visit to Las Vegas, he also wrote "Fear and Loathing: On the Campaign Trail '72" The

central character in those wild, sprawling satires was "Dr. Thompson," a snarling, drug- and alcohol-crazed observer and participant.

Thompson is credited alongside Tom Wolfe and Gay Talese with helping pioneer New Journalism — or, as he dubbed his version, "gonzo journalism" — in which the writer made himself an essential component of the story.

Thompson, whose early writings mostly appeared in Rolling Stone magazine, often portrayed himself as wildly intoxicated as he reported on such figures as Jimmy Carter, Richard Nixon and Bill Clinton.

"Fiction is based on reality unless you're a fairy-tale artist," Thompson told The Associated Press in 2003. "You have to get your knowledge of life from somewhere. You have to know the material you're writing about before you alter it."

Born July 18, 1937, in Kentucky, Hunter Stockett Thompson served two years in the Air Force, where he was a newspaper sports editor.

Thompson also wrote such collections as "Generation of Swine" and "Songs of the Doomed." His first novel, "The Rum Diary," written in 1959, was first published in 1998.

Thompson was a counterculture icon at the height of the Watergate era, and once said Nixon represented "that dark, venal, and incurably violent side of the American character."

Thompson also was the model for Gary Trudeau's bawdy "Uncle Duke" in the comic strip "Doonersbury." He was portrayed on screen by Bill Murray in "Where the Buffalo Roam" and Johnny Depp in a film adaptation of "Fear and Loathing in Las Vegas."

John Rogers of The Associated Press contributed to this report from Los Angeles.

Sandra Dee, actress, idol, dies

BY LAURA WIDES
The Associated Press

LOS ANGELES — Sandra Dee, who at the height of her fame in the 1960s was arguably the biggest female teen idol of her time, has died, leaving a legacy of film roles that includes "Gidget" and "Tammy and the Doctor."

"She was Gidget, and she was Tammy, and for a time she was young America's ideal," film historian Leonard Maltin once said of her. Dee later married another pop icon, singer Bobby Darin.

Dee died of complications Sunday morning from kidney disease at the Los Robles Hospital & Medical Center in Thousand Oaks, her family said. She was 62.

Steve Blauner, a longtime family friend who represents Darin's

estate, said Dee had been hospitalized for nearly two weeks. She had been on dialysis for about four years, Blauner said.

"She didn't have a bad bone in her body," he said. "When she was a big star in the pictures and a top five at the box office, she treated the grip the exact same way she treated the head of the studio. She meant it. She wasn't phony."

With her squeaky-clean image and girl-next-door charm, Universal Studios cast Dee mostly in teen movies such as "The Reluctant Debutante," "The Restless Years," "Tammy Tell Me True" and "Take Her, She's Mine." Occasionally, she landed secondary roles in more mature films, such as "Imitation of Life," "A Portrait in Black" and "Romance and Juliet." Dee later made an inde-

pendent film, "Rosie" (1968), starring with Rosalind Russell, but she never recaptured the stardom of her teenage years.

In 1960, Dee married Darin in Elizabeth, N.J., following a one-month courtship. A son, Dodd Mitchell, was born the following year.

Born Alexandra Zuck in Bayonne, N.J., on April 23, 1942, Dee became a model while in grade school.

Her name was resuscitated in 1978 with the film "Grease," which featured the song "Look Me, I'm Sandra Dee" that mocked her wholesomeness. But Dee didn't mind, Blauner said. "She always had a big laugh about it. She had a great sense of humor."

Bob Thomas of The Associated Press contributed to this report.



Dee in 'Tammy and the Doctor'



Dee at a 1971 photos

John Raitt, star of stage and screen, dead at 88

BY BOB THOMAS
The Associated Press

LOS ANGELES — Though in his later years he joked that he had become best known as singer Bonnie Raitt's father, John Raitt was famous in his own right as the robust baritone who lived musicals such as "Carousel" and "The Pajama Game."

Raitt died Sunday of complications from pneumonia at his Pacific Palisades home, said his manager, James Fitzgerald. Raitt was 88. He had become well known on the West Coast for his handsome presence and ringing voice when in 1944 he was invited to New York to try out for the role of Curly in the road company of "Oklahoma!" He was rushed to the St. James Theater and an audition with Oscar Hammerstein II and Richard Rodgers.

In 1995, Raitt recalled: "I hadn't sung since California, so I said, 'Do you mind if I warm up?' I sang Figaro's aria from 'The Barber of Seville.' Then I sang all of Curly's songs."

There was silence when he finished. Raitt was hired for the Chicago company of "Oklahoma!"



John Raitt appears at the 15th Annual Rock and Roll Hall of Fame Induction Dinner in March 2000. Raitt died Sunday at 88.

Rodgers and Hammerstein had been working on their second collaboration, "Carousel," and they chose Raitt for the role of the doomed hero Billy Bigelow.

Raitt's star status on Broadway was assured, and after the long run in "Carousel" he appeared in "Magdalena," "Three Wishes for Jamie" and "Canal in Flanders." He lacked a big crossover to film until "The Pajama Game" in 1954.

"The Pajama Game" became a successful movie with Raitt and Doris Day. Despite his good notices, it was Raitt's only starring movie.

'Minutemen' plan to patrol Arizona border to stop illegal immigrants

BY LARA JAKES JORDAN
The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Intent on securing the vulnerable Arizona border from illegal immigrant crossings, U.S. officials are bracing for what they call a potential new threat this spring: the Minutemen.

Nearly 500 volunteers have already joined the Minuteman Patrol, anointing themselves civilian border patrol agents determined to stop the immigration flow that routinely, and easily, seeps past federal authorities. They plan to patrol a 40-mile stretch of the southeast Arizona border throughout April when the tide of immigrants crossing the U.S.-Mexico border peaks.

"I felt the only way to get some things done is to do it yourself," said Jim Gilchrist, a retired army colonel and decorated Vietnam War veteran who is helping recruit Minutemen across the country.

"We've been repeatedly accused of being people who are taking the law into our own hands," said Gilchrist, 56, of Aliso Viejo, Calif., as an onetime rebuttal statement. We are going down there to assist law enforcement."

Officials counted the 370-mile Arizona border as the most porous stretch on the U.S.-Mexico line. Moreover, recent intelligence show that al-Qaida terrorists are likely to

Civilians take action at border

A group of civilians organized under the Minuteman Project have announced they will begin patrolling a portion of the Arizona-Mexican border this spring to curb illegal immigration.

On patrol in Arizona

Percentage of the U.S.-Mexico border that is along Arizona

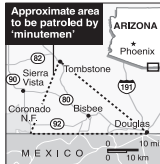
18%

Percentage of illegal immigrants caught by U.S. Border Patrol in 2004 that crossed into Arizona

51%

Percentage of federal border agents that work in Arizona

24%



NOTE: Percentages based on the following statistics: U.S.-Mexican border, 1,933 miles; Arizona-Mexican border, 350 miles. Illegal immigrants arrested in FY2004, 1,139,282; number arrested in Arizona, 589,831; number of federal southern border agents, 10,000 (est.); border agents in Arizona's Tucson/Yuma sectors, 2,425.

Sources: ESRI, U.S. Customs & Border Protection

AP

enter the country through the Mexico border, says James Loy, the deputy secretary of the Homeland Security Department, said last week.

Of the 1.1 million illegal immigrants caught by the U.S. Border Patrol last year, 52 percent crossed into the country at Arizona's border. The agency increased the number of agents in the Tucson sector, which has its

largest staff, from 1,700 to 2,100 over the last 18 months.

But that number is going to grow to try to plug the remaining holes, said Customs and Border Protection Commissioner Robert C. Bonner. About 10,000 federal agents now patrol the 2,000-mile southern border, he said.

Officials fear the Minuteman patrols could cause more trouble than they prevent.



Going once, twice ... jazz treasures sold

The Associated Press

NEW YORK — Lionel Hampton's vibraphone and Dizzy Gillespie's trumpet were among a treasure trove of 450 pieces of jazz memorabilia auctioned to raise money for jazz charities.

Hampton's engraved 1930s King George instrument sold for \$50,000 said Kim Anello, a spokeswoman for the Guernsey's auction house, which conducted the sale. Gillespie's custom-made Martin trumpet fetched \$26,000.

A handwritten letter from John Coltrane to his mother in 1964 sold for \$16,000; another sold for \$14,000. The identities of the winning bidders were not released.

Also up for auction were items such as Louis "Satchmo" Armstrong's trumpet, a saxophone engraved with Charlie "Bird" Parker's name, an unreleased tape of a 1951 Parker performance and a rhinestone gown from the late 1960s in which Peggy Lee sang smoldering songs such as "Fever."

Thelonious Monk's smoking jacket had the name of his song evoking his beloved wife embroidered into the sleeve, with a whimsical detail — "Crepuscule with Nellie" was misspelled.

The auction was held at the new home of Jazz at Lincoln Center, in the Time Warner complex in Manhattan. Bidders participated by telephone, on eBay or in person.

Guernsey's refrained from setting price estimates "because prices are set by precedents — and there's no precedent for these items," company president Arlan Ettinger said before the sale.

Items were donated by the musicians' families. Proceeds from the sale were to go to jazz foundations, archives and young jazz artists.



AP photos

Top: Dizzy Gillespie's trumpet, left, and a 31-page letter by Louis Armstrong to his manager, were among jazz items up for auction. Above: Arlan Ettinger, president of Guernsey's auction house, shows off Roy Haynes' drums at Lincoln Center in New York.

More smart toys can get up close, personal with kids

BY ANNE D'INNOVENZO

The Associated Press

NEW YORK — Picture an Elmo or Winnie the Pooh plush doll that knows a child's name and favorite food, and tells stories and sings songs incorporating such personal details. Or a new version of Furby that recognizes voices and reacts with emotions from surprise to dismay, and responds to specific words a child says.

These electronic toys, which make a child's play more interactive and personal, are among the products manufacturers are betting on to help them reclaim sales lost since 2003 to grown-up gadgets such as iPod music players.

"Kids tend to remember experiences that are personalized," said Reyna Rice, a toy trend specialist for the Toy Industry Association, the industry trade group.

While these high-tech offerings account for only a small number of the products being unveiled at this year's industry expo, the American International Toy Fair, which began Sunday, they represent the "wow factor" — the kind of product that draws parents into stores, said Chris Byrne, a New York-based independent toy consultant.

All kinds of toys are going high-tech — industry analysts estimate that at least 75 percent of toys debuting this year will have a microchip. Jim Silver, publisher of the Toy Book, a New

York-based industry magazine, now calls the toy business "the family entertainment business."

"The lines have blurred between toys and electronics," he said. The new toys include:

■ Pixel Chix, from Mattel Inc., a handheld gadget in the shape of a house that lets a child interact with an animated girlfriend.

The toy will retail for \$29.99.

■ Winnie the Pooh or Elmo Knows Your Name, from Mattel's Fisher-Price, a doll that can know a child's name and other personal details, such as his or her birthday and favorite games. Using a cable connection and a CD-ROM, parents can download key information into the characters. Each will be priced at \$39.99.

■ A new version of Furby, from Hasbro Inc., which boasts a new technology called emotronics that brings the plush toy more to life. It will be able to speak interactively with the child and reacts to words such as "hungry." It will be priced at \$39.99.

■ Amazing Amanda, from Playmates Toys Inc., a 21-inch doll that can recognize her "mommy's" voice and respond after hearing it just three times. The doll is expected to sell for \$99.99.

NPD Group, a market research company, said high-tech toys are helping to stabilize the overall toy business. Although overall sales fell 3 percent to \$20.1 billion in 2004 from \$20.7 billion in 2003, following a 2.9 percent drop in 2003, some products showed improvement.

American Philosophical Society unveils collection of oddities

BY PATRICK WALTERS

The Associated Press

PHILADELPHIA — Since being founded by Benjamin Franklin in 1743, the American Philosophical Society has collected just about every kind of trinket, piece of Americana and oddity imaginable.

The problem is, much of it has never been on display. So after trawling through its vast collections, the group has assembled and put on exhibit a broad array of artifacts, historical documents, inventions and other items, many of which have been tucked away for decades.

"It's extremely proud in that way," curator Sue Ann Prince said of "Treasures Revealed: 260 Years of Collecting at the American Philosophical Society," which opened Friday and runs through Dec. 11. "What we did was do a lot of looking through our collections."

The results are so broad they're hard to put into categories.

A New Testament bound in human skin — likely that of an executed convict — is displayed in a glass case not far from the portrait of George Washington that appears on the dollar bill.

Blueprints for ENIAC, an early electronic digital computer developed by researchers at the University of Pennsylvania, hang steps away from a map depicting the Revolutionary War's deciding battle of Yorktown.

An unknown photographer's painful images of atomic clouds rising up after the Bikini Atoll atomic bomb tests share a room with pages of negotiations between American Indians and Pennsylvania colonists from the mid-18th century.

Divided into themed sections, the displays cover natural history, the nation's founding, art, inventions, technology, artifacts and other areas. There are chicken feathers saved by poultry geneticist Hubert Goodale and John I. Hawkins' patent polygraph, an

early 19th-century device with two mechanically linked pens that allowed an author to have a replica of his writings created. The idea never took off.

The society, located in the heart of Philadelphia's historic district, was founded by Franklin "to promote useful knowledge" and served as a national library, patent office, museum and academy before the nation's capital was moved to Washington, D.C.

Today, it remains a source of research in biology, genetics and other revolutionary sciences. Invitation-only members from a variety of fields include Supreme Court Justice Sandra Day O'Connor, cellist Yo-Yo Ma, architect I. M. Pei and 93 current Nobel laureates.

In November, the society wrapped up a year-long exhibit of the nation's natural history, including early examples of taxidermy, dried plants and seeds from Lewis and Clark's expedition, and illustrations by famed naturalists John James Audubon and Alexander Wilson.



AP

"Observations upon Negro Slavery," dated 1790 by Charles Crawford, shows how enslaved Africans were transported. It is displayed at the American Philosophical Society in Philadelphia.

OPINION

Don't let Kim have his cake and eat it too

Happy birthday, Kim Jong Il! Kim turned 63 Wednesday, and extravagant celebrations honoring the authoritarian ruler were expected — pretty much mandated — throughout North Korea.

Eric Mink

Kim actually got the party started a week before his birthday with an official statement from his foreign ministry that the Democratic People's Republic of Korea (neither democratic nor a republic) possesses nuclear weapons. He simultaneously pulled North Korea out of the six-nation talks that were aimed at finding incentives for him to abandon his nuclear pursuits.

The double-barreled surprise thrust Kim into the world spotlight. "Attention must be paid," as the late Arthur Miller wrote of his sad salesman, Willy Loman.

But the hard-liners within the Bush administration would rather not pay attention to Kim. They prefer to go through the motions of diplomacy, letting the Chinese take the point while they gamble that Kim can be ignored to death. Their plan is to force Kim's regime into talking under pressure tactics including, as The New York Times reported last week, the use of sophisticated computer tracking to "choke off its few remaining sources of income."

This is rationalization masquerading as strategy. President Bush seems to have decided that Kim is both crazy and evil and that the United States stands to gain nothing by dealing directly with a madman.

Bush's attitude toward Kim is eerily consistent with the portrayal of the dictator in "Team America: World Police," a relentlessly vulgar musical comedy that has the coyness of the "South Park" TV series and, arguably, the funniest movie of 2004. In the film — all characters are string-controlled marionettes — Kim is a flat-out psychopath secretly plotting thousands of simultaneous terrorist attacks around the globe.

I don't know if Kim truly is psychopathic,

although there's no question that he represses his people brutally and ruthlessly. It's worth noting that the intelligence services know even less about what's really happening inside North Korea than they did about Iraq. Some Western officials who have dealt personally with Kim describe a person up on his facts, astute about what he wants and nimble in negotiations.

It's not reassuring to see the foreign policy views of the U.S. president championed by a bawdy puppet movie; the supposed insanity of an adversary is simply too convenient an excuse for diplomatic failure.

And in fact, at least some of Kim's moves — disconcerting as they are — make perfect sense. Under the Agreed Framework of 1994, for example, the United States promised to supply North Korea with two nuclear-powered light-water electric plants and take clearly timed steps toward normalized relations. For its part, North Korea promised to take specific steps back from its development of nuclear technology and permit independent verification.

The plants never were built, the steps never taken. North Korea secretly started back on its nuclear path. Bush's subsequent policy of non-negotiation — and the invasion of Iraq — have only given Kim more incentive to continue.

One of Bush's strengths as a leader, we're told, is that he says what he means and means what he says. Why then do he and his staff seem so oblivious to the consequences of their words? In the summer of 2003, days before the start of multination talks about North Korea in Beijing, Undersecretary of State John Bolton, one of Bush's cadre of neo-conservatives, publicly denounced Kim as "a tyrannical dictator." Surprise: The talks produced nothing.

A year later, at a campaign appearance in Hudson, Wis., Bush again called Kim a "tyrant," the same word he used in the same speech to describe Saddam Hussein. North Korea's foreign ministry responded with a statement calling Bush "a political imbecile bereft of even elementary morality as a human being and a bad guy.... Bush is a tyrant that puts Hitler into the shade."

At her Senate confirmation hearings, Condoleezza Rice, then Bush's nominee to be



secretary of state, placed North Korea among the world's "outposts of tyranny." In his inaugural address two days later, Bush proclaimed the United States "ultimate goal of ending tyranny in our world."

Was it at all irrational for Kim to regard those statements as a direct threat? Indeed, North Korea's statement this month specifically cited Bush's and Rice's comments in explaining why it has "manufactured nukes for self-defense."

In a present analysis of Bush's anti-terrorism strategies, Jeffrey Record of the U.S. Air Force's Air War College in Montgomery, Ala., warned that the war in Iraq was likely to accelerate the nuclear activities of such countries as North Korea. "If anything," Record wrote in his December 2003 report, "rogue-state regimes see in such weapons a means of deterring American military action against themselves."

Bush and company counter that the Libya success story proves the Iraq war has been a powerful incentive for nuclear disarmament.

After seeing the United States depose Saddam, the story line goes, Libyan strongman Moammar Gadhafi decided to give up his nuclear and chemical weapons programs. Nonsense, said Flynn Leverett, who ran Middle Eastern affairs for Bush's National Security Council from 2002 to 2003.

In an op-ed piece last year for The New York Times, Leverett described Libya's decision as the end product of a long, step-by-step diplomatic process that began in the Clinton administration and was brought to fruition in the Bush administration by keeping the issue away from the neo-conservative hard-liners. After Sept. 11, 2001, however, the neo-cons were firmly in charge, Leverett wrote, and Bush failed to pursue comparable opportunities with both Iran and Syria.

Given this month's developments with North Korea, we seem to be in for four more years of lurching from one foreign policy crisis to the next.

Eric Mink is commentary editor for the St. Louis Post-Dispatch.

Zimbabwe leader an affront to an improved Africa

The Washington Post

Robert Mugabe, Zimbabwe's 80-year-old dictator, refers to the U.S. secretary of state as a "girl" who ought to know that "the white man is not a friend." He also regards Zimbabwe's long-suffering people as children who should be "trusted with the keys to their own country." He rigged elections in 2000 and 2002. The parliamentary election scheduled for March 31 looks likely to be no better.

In the run-up to next month's vote, Mugabe has prevented the opposition party from advertising, restricted its meetings, pressed fresh treason charges against its leader and directed militias to intimidate its organizers. Mugabe also has used food shortages as a political weapon, denying relief to opponents. He has harassed election monitoring groups, detained some of the few remaining independent journalists and seized control of the electoral commission. Archbishop Desmond Tutu, the veteran South African anti-apartheid campaigner, has called the Mugabe dictatorship a "huge blot" on Africa. In response, a Mugabe henchman accuses the archbishop of being "a threat to the 'false gods, Tony Blair and George Bush.'"

The question is whether the rest of Africa is going to allow Zimbabwe's aging racist to

equate political freedom with colonial repression. The continent's two powerhouses, South Africa and Nigeria, are both democratic and are trying to spread democratic values across the continent. According to Freedom House, 32 African countries are free or partly free; 16 are classified as unfree. The South Africans and Nigerians scored a victory recently by leading a continent-wide denunciation of an undemocratic

succession in the West African state of Togo. Their firmness is having an effect: Togo's regime has promised an election within 60 days, as called for in its constitution.

Taking on Zimbabwe is tougher. But Mugabe is mocking Africa's talk of democracy so openly that the continent's leaders, notably, South African President Thabo Mbeki, must not duck the challenge. A force-

ful denunciation of Mugabe's repression, coupled with the threat of sanctions, might quickly force the dictator to change; Zimbabwe depends on South Africa economically.

The rewards to democratic Africa for tough action would be substantial. The rich world is debating a possible scaling up of development aid this year. The money is more likely to flow if Africans show the courage to address their most obvious shortcomings.

Mallard Fillmore

BY BRUCE TINSLEY



Contract agreement

PA PHILADELPHIA — Temple University and its professors' union reached tentative agreement on a four-year contract that would increase the faculty pay package by 15.22 percent. In addition, benefits would be available for domestic partners, the sabbatical program would expand, and pension benefits would be added for non-tenure track faculty such as lecturers. The 1,165 faculty members vote on the agreement this week.



AMERICAN ROUNDUP

Lake Michigan mess

IL CHICAGO — Lt. Gov. Pat Quinn assailed "pinheads in Washington" for a proposed federal rule change that would allow cities to dump more untreated sewage into Lake Michigan. The proposal would let cities with outdated sewage treatment systems mix treated and untreated sewage during wet weather. Quinn said that would mean more beach closures and tainted drinking water.

Gay marriage ban

TN NASHVILLE — A House committee approved a proposed constitutional ban on gay marriages, moving it toward debate by the full chamber. The approval came one day after a Senate committee passed it. The measure passed last year by a simple majority and must gain two-thirds approval in the Legislature this session to appear before voters in 2006.

Woman charged in hoax

KS COLUMBUS — Cherokee County prosecutor Michael Goodrich says he wants to dismiss felony charges against Birdie Jo Hoaks, 34, accused of posing as a 13-year-old boy to enroll in middle school. The 5-foot-tall, 140-pound woman met with a special education teacher for four days before inconsistencies in her story revealed the hoax. Charges against her twin sister also would be dropped.

Union workers march

OK OKLAHOMA CITY — Union workers rallied at the Capitol and demanded that lawmakers stop trying to repeal a law requiring some Oklahoma cities to allow municipal workers to bargain collectively.

Rep. Bill Case, who wrote the repeal bill, argues the collective bargaining statute could lead to a decline in services and impose an unfunded mandate on local governments.

SUV driver arrested

VT WINOOSKI — A Burlington man is facing drunken-driving charges that he crashed his sport utility vehicle into a multi-family house seconds after he swerved to avoid three pedestrians, police said.

Viktor Ishkhanyan, 48, was arrested by police on the charge of driving under the influence at the time of the accident, Lt. R.J. Sheehan said.

Ishkhanyan's blood alcohol level was 0.299 percent, more than three times the state's 0.08 percent legal limit, Sheehan said.

Ishkhanyan was driving north on Weaver Street when he tried to

swerve around a van. Officer Paul Townsend said. He then drove across the street and onto the sidewalk, where three adults were walking. Ishkhanyan jerked the car back onto the road to avoid the pedestrians and instead crashed through a chain-link fence and into the corner of a house, Townsend said.

Sheehan said Ishkhanyan, a Russian native with limited English skills, did not discuss the accident with him after he was taken into custody.

Purging Jim Crow laws

WV CHARLESTON — Delegates introduced a bill to remove from state law the few remaining passages of so-called Jim Crow laws that were aimed at separating blacks and whites.

Delegate Sharon Spencer, 57, who is white, co-sponsored the measure with the Legislature's only two black members, Democrat delegates Charlene Marshall and Cliff Moore — whose father, Ernest Moore, began the process of purging the law books of racist language during his 12 terms in the House.

"I have a feeling that it's going to pass without any trouble at all," the younger Moore said. "They know this is the right thing to do."



New wave

Callin Bedford models her own design titled "All Tied Up" during the fifth annual Wearable Art Extravaganza at Centennial Hall, in Juneau, Alaska. The dress, made entirely of ties, was one of 30 entered into the art show hosted by the Juneau Arts and Humanities Council.

The bill targets a section of the law governing county school boards that speaks of the ratio of "Negro" assistant superintendents to black teachers.

It also targets a reference to the defunct "Negro board of education" in a section addressing the historically black Bluefield State College.

Spencer said a Yale professor found the long-forgotten language during a research project, and informed state lawmakers.

It's almost official

VA RICHMOND — Gov. Mark Warner will likely sign legislation making the Virginia big-eared bat the commonwealth's official bat, his spokeswoman said. Among Virginia's other official symbols: milk (state beverage), the brook trout (state fish), and the Tiger swallowtail butterfly (state insect).

Courteous inmate

OH CANTON — An inmate released by mistake by jail officials in Ohio arranged his own way back to the prison in Colorado where he still has two more years to serve. He even called to say he was on his way.

Stark County jailers let Ricky Lee Claycomb go after he was acquitted of a rape charge he had been brought to Ohio from Colorado to face. Jail officials apparently never saw the paperwork to return him to the prison.

"We don't know exactly what happened," Sheriff Tim Swanson said.

Claycomb, 37, called his mother in Henderson, Colo.

"He told them at the jail that he was supposed to be taken back to Colorado," said his mother, Jill Claycomb. "He said they told him he was done in Canton and it was his problem to get back."

She sent him money for a bus ticket. After the two-day trip to Colorado, Claycomb visited her long enough to have oatmeal and peaches for breakfast and pizza for lunch, and then his brother drove him to Colorado's Fremont Correctional Facility in Canon City.

Abstinence in sin city?

NV LAS VEGAS — Yvette Thomas is betting that abstinence sells in sin city.

Her wholesome wares stood out at MAGIC Marketplace, an intimate apparel trade show at the Las Vegas Convention Center.

Thomas quietly hawked her company's T-shirts and panties adorned with slogans such as "Virginity Lane: Exit When Married" and "No vows, no sex," amid booths sponsored by the likes of Playboy and Pamela Anderson.

"We have so much of the opposite out there, sometimes we have to remind ourselves what our values are," Thomas said. "A number of people have walked by and said, 'I like your message.'"

Thomas launched Wait Wear five years ago. Without prior fashion experience, she slowly built her Las Angeles-based company through online sales and displays at youth events.

This week marks Wait Wear's first appearance at MAGIC Marketplace, which draws 93,000 visitors and \$129.7 million in nongambling revenue to Las Vegas.



Search and rescue

Enid Fire Department fire engine driver Andy Wall uses an oxygen mask to aid a dog named Lucky, who was rescued from a burning house in Enid, Okla. Lucky had to be carried out by his home.



Fish story

Tony Bombe, of Orlando, Fla., lands a largemouth bass while fishing on Lake Lloyd in the infield of the Daytona International Speedway in Daytona Beach, Fla.



Young riders

Norma Ortiz, 13, a two-year member of the Las Mariposas Riding Club from El Paso, Texas, sits on her horse as she waits to take part in the San Antonio Stock Show and Rodeo parade which wound through downtown San Antonio, Texas.



Just hanging on tight

Luis Escudero gets a big jolt forward during his ride in the bareback contest at the San Antonio Stock Show and Rodeo.



Rolling waters

North Las Vegas roads flood causing a strain for weekend drivers on Grand Teton Drive near North Buffalo Drive.



Here kitty, kitty

A cat casts his shadow through a broken pane of glass on a barn window near Wilton, Iowa.



Don't look down

Valdez Ice Climbing Festival.

Climber Aidan Loehr works his way up the 200-foot tall Hung Jury, a frozen waterfall in Keystone Canyon outside of Valdez, Alaska, during the annual

GOP says no to funds

OR SALEM — The Senate Republican Caucus announced it will no longer accept campaign contributions during the legislative session. It's calling on Democratic Gov. Ted Kulongoski and other elected officials to do the same. Senate Democrats, House Democrats and House Republicans have all vowed not to accept campaign contributions during this year's session.

Insurance claims drop

MA LAWRENCE — Auto accident claims are down significantly in Lawrence and several other Merrimack Valley communities after a 16-month crackdown on auto insurance fraud, according to an industry report.

The Insurance Fraud Bureau of Massachusetts forecasts \$25 million in savings for 2004 in Lawrence alone, based on lower claims for personal injury, property damages and other claims for the first nine months of last year, compared with the same period in 2003.

Claims also were down in nearby Andover, North Andover, Methuen and Haverhill, but no savings estimate was given.

Scores of people were arrested in the crackdown on fraudulent accident reports in Lawrence after a 65-year-old woman was killed in 2003 in a staged crash that police said she helped arrange.

Accident reports filed with police have declined as much as 40 percent, and the downturn has continued for more than a year.

Authorities said the latest numbers indicate a sharp decline in phony accidents because they result in many more injury claims than real ones, typically eight injury claims for a two-car fake collision.

Bird-feeder ban

CA SAN FRANCISCO — The California Department of Fish and Game is asking Northern California residents to remove their bird feeders for at least a month to slow the spread of an avian disease.

Salmonellosis has killed a number of pine siskins, small brown streaked birds with yellow patches on their wings and tails. The birds live primarily in wooded areas, and dead birds have been found throughout the forested areas of Northern California, from Grass Valley to Eureka.

While it is unlikely humans would contract the disease, pets could, especially if they are exposed to fecal matter below feeders, officials said.

Birds contract the disease from each other, most often by eating fecal-contaminated food. But they also can become sick by sticking their heads in tube feeders where their eyes come in contact with the feeder itself.

\$560,000 settlement

FL KEY WEST — A shipping company has agreed to pay more than \$560,000 to settle claims

that its freighter damaged a protected coral reef in the Florida Keys, officials said.

The freighter, MSC Diego, was cited in 2002 for illegally anchoring in the National Marine Sanctuary. Biologists said its anchor and chain overturned more than 1,000 coral colonies and crushed others in an area about the size of an Olympic-sized swimming pool.

Mediterranean Shipping Co. and its insurer will reimburse the government \$100,000 for the damage and related costs, the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration said. The companies will also pay \$465,796 to monitor and restore the reef.

The sanctuary covers 2,900 square nautical miles of coral reefs, sea-grass meadows and shorelines.

Phony voter guilty

OH DEFAENCE — A man pleaded guilty to charges he tried to phony voter registration cards in the names of Mary Poppins, Dick Tracy, Michael Jordan and George Foreman.

Chad Staton, 22, faces up to a year in prison and \$2,500 fine on each of 10 counts of false registration at his sentencing April 13.

Officials said Staton had fraudulently filled out more than 100 forms.

Psychiatric patient dies

TX HOUSTON — A 52-year-old psychiatric patient who had a heart ailment died after Harris County constables shocked him with a stun gun, authorities said.

The two deputies went to the man's mother's home to serve a mental health commitment warrant, Chief Deputy J.C. Mosier said. They used the Taser after the man resisted their efforts to take him away.

The man continued to struggle with the deputies, but he then started having trouble breathing. He was taken by ambulance to a hospital where he later died.

The deputies knew the man had health problems but were unaware of his heart ailment, Mosier said.

"We would have handled it a lot different if we would have had better information," he said.

Here's the ticket

IN SHELBYVILLE — Karrie Jeremiah pulled a discarded lottery ticket from a restaurant trash can and hit the jackpot.

Two other people had purchased the \$3 Hoosier Lottery scratch-off ticket last week at El Chapparral Cafe. When a clerk at the downtown cafe told them it wasn't the \$40 winner they were hoping for, they threw it away, lottery officials said.

It wasn't a \$40 winner — it was a \$100,000 winner.

Jeremiah said she wondered whether the numbers were completely checked before the ticket was tossed.

"Who would ever throw this ticket in the trash knowing it was a \$100,000 hit?" she said.

Stories and photos from news wires

FACES

One in a million

Oscar winner Swank has inside track for second statuette

BY BARRY KOLTOW
The Orange County Register

HOLLYWOOD

Hollywood is a tough town. The Chateau Marmont is a tough hotel in Hollywood.

This is a place that is so embedded with the movie industry that the show business newspaper Daily Variety is posted each day in the elevators.

During any given lunch hour, the hotel's outdoor dining area is filled with actors discussing career moves with their agents and filmmakers finalizing movie deals with studio executives. You can't swing a free gift basket over your head without hitting someone in the movie business.

Into this frenzied environment strolled Hilary Swank. The actress did not have a reservation but Oscar winners don't usually need reservations in Hollywood.

The maitre d' offered a noisy table near the entrance but the actress was looking for a quieter table in the back for this interview. The maitre d' apologized but said he couldn't go out of his way to accommodate her.

Like we said, tough hotel. Apparently, only two-time Oscar winners get the royal treatment at this hotel, so the 30-year-old Swank will just have to wait a few days.

The star of Clint Eastwood's "Million Dollar Baby" is the odds-on favorite in the Best Actress category after her wins at the Golden Globes and the Screen Actors Guild ceremony. In the film, which is gathering its own momentum for a run at the Best Picture Oscar, Swank plays a fiercely determined woman seeking to escape her empty life through boxing.

After finding a quiet table at another section of the hotel's garden, Swank ordered an iced tea and an ahi tuna plate, and then explained what her 1999 Oscar for "Boys Don't Cry" meant to her career, why Clint stands in line at lunch and who she can beat up.

ORANGE COUNTY REGISTER: How does this pre-Oscar period compare with the last time?

HILARY SWANK: You would think that the second time around wouldn't be as exciting, or would seem a little more predictable because you've been through it before, but in the end I'm still as much in disbelief as I was the first time.

OCR: Really?

SWANK: Yeah. Because, first of all, you don't think it's going to happen even once in your life. And then, it happens and you think, "OK, this is a once-in-a-lifetime" thing. I may be even more appreciative this time.

OCR: Explain.

SWANK: When I won the last time, I thought I would be bombarded with the most amazing roles. I thought there would be a plethora of opportunities and I wasn't going to be able to decide which role to take. What I realized was that the great roles are few and far between.

OCR: Are you saying that the Oscar didn't open doors for you?

SWANK: It did open incredible doors, but not the kind of earth-shattering roles I expected. Not to take anything away from "Insomnia," "Iron-Jawed Angels" and some other challenging movies.

OCR: And yet, with "Million Dollar Baby," you did end up with one of those earth-shattering roles.

SWANK: And I can't believe it's only five years later. I was starting to believe it might be every 25 years.

OCR: How did you react when you heard the role was a boxer?

SWANK: I was thrilled. I love any chance I get to explore another world or push myself to the limit.

OCR: So you read the script and thought: "Oh, here's another Oscar nomination?"

SWANK: No. I'd never heard that. I laughed. I cried. I was inspired, I felt connected. I felt really connected to the character.

OCR: Why?

SWANK: She grew up poor in a trailer park. I grew up poor in a trailer park. She had a dream. I had a dream. She is disciplined, focused and lucky. All those apply to me.

OCR: Were you disappointed that you had to work with a couple of backs like Clint Eastwood and Morgan Freeman?

SWANK: (laughing): Yeah, it was a shame I had to settle for them.



Hilary Swank arrives at the Screen Actors Guild Awards ceremony, held Feb. 5 at the Shrine Auditorium in Los Angeles. She won SAG's Best Actress category for her role in "Million Dollar Baby."

OCR: Seriously, what does it mean to work with people of that caliber?

SWANK: It is literally a dream come true. I feel I've grown from the experience, not only as an actor but as a human being.

OCR: What does Clint as a director bring to the set?

SWANK: You know you're in the hands of an icon who has proven himself over and over again, so you don't question. You just trust everything. He is confident and knows what he wants, but not in an arrogant way. You never feel like he's forcing his decisions upon you.

OCR: I know you trained very hard to look believable as a boxer, and eventually gained 19 pounds of muscle. By the end of your training, could you beat up your husband, Chad Lowe?

SWANK: Probably.

TLC searching for new voice

TLC group members Tionne "T-Boz" Watkins and Rozonda "Chilli" Thomas are returning to the city where they got their start to find a new voice to sing with.

Auditions have been held across the country for UPN's new reality show, "R U The Girl with T-Boz & Chilli," but Atlanta's stop Saturday was the first the singers were to attend in person.

In 2002, the group was devastated by member Lisa "Left-Eye" Lopes' death in a car crash. Since then, the four-time Grammy-winning group whose hits include "Waterfalls," "Creep" and "No Scrubs," has not released new material.

Watkins and Thomas say they're not trying to replace Lopes.

"Nothing has changed. We're not replacing Lisa," Thomas told said last year. "We're not looking for a new member."

The person chosen through the show will perform with the duo during a one-time concert and for a recorded song on their greatest hits project.



Tionne "T-Boz" Watkins, left, and Rozonda "Chilli" Thomas

Trump congratulates industrious teens

Donald Trump wrote a congratulatory letter to a group of teenagers who used the NBC reality show "The Apprentice" as a model to raise about \$23,000 for tsunami victims.

"I am very pleased to hear about the enthusiasm and success of the high school children in this endeavor, and would like to thank you for sharing it with me," Trump wrote in response to a letter from Rabbi Victor Urecki informing him of the FNWai-Jacob Synagogue Youth Discussion Group's project in Charleston, W.Va.

Urecki said 23 teens formed two corporations, Gladiators and Yaffa Corp., and competed to raise the most money. The winners' prize was to be dinner at a nice restaurant while the losers were to get Slurpees.

The teens had hoped to raise \$5,000 through fund-raising activities including a raffle and a silent auction. In the end, their total was almost \$23,000 and only \$2 separated the teams. So everyone was treated to dinner.

Destiny's Child to kick off world tour

Destiny's Child is embarking on a world tour — and heading out straight through the golden arches.

The R&B trio will kick off a 16-country, 72-city tour April 9 in Hiroshima, Japan, the group announced. The tour, "Destiny Fulfilled... and lovin' it," is sponsored by McDonald's.

"Our 2005 tour is going to be amazing and will really entertain our fans across the globe," Beyoncé said in a statement Thursday.

After Japan, Destiny's Child will perform throughout Australia and Europe and eventually conclude in the United States and Canada this summer. Stops include Dubai in the United Arab Emirates; Stockholm, Sweden; Milan, Italy; Paris; and London.

They will play 44 North America cities, finishing in Honolulu in September.

'Hitch' star offers dating advice

Fresh from the No. 1 debut of his first romantic comedy, "Hitch," Will Smith has a little advice for that all-important first date.

"Competence is first and foremost," Smith said Friday as the movie screened at the Berlin International Film Festival.

"Something well."

"If you're a great tennis player, you want to be seen on your first date playing tennis," he said. "You don't want to be the guy that, you go to the sushi restaurant, you've never been there and you don't know anything about sushi."

"Hitch" took in an estimated \$45.3 million in the United States over the Valentine's Day weekend, making it No. 1 at the box office.

Smith Action hero Smith stars as a Manhattan "date doctor" who helps hopeless men win the hearts of their dream women, but has romantic troubles when he meets his own soul mate, played by Eva Mendes.

Stories and photos from the Associated Press

Some collegiate classes are good to the last drop

Professors give academic honors to coffee and cafes

By MURRAY EVANS
The Associated Press

DANVILLE, Ky. — For years, sociology professor Beau Weston has held informal office hours off campus in a local coffee shop, sipping his mocha latte while advising students.

As he did, he formed relationships with other coffee shop regulars who might otherwise have remained strangers. That caused a sort of academic epiphany, and now he's one of a handful of teachers across the nation who have developed courses that study coffee and its effect on society.

Weston's class, offered during a recent intensive three-week term at Centre College, was hardly "Starbucks 101," although the 15 students who enrolled in "The Café and Public Life" could be forgiven if that was their original impression.

Audrey Rogers, a freshman from Dallas, said she initially wondered about the academic strength of the class. "I didn't know how it was going to last a week."

Weston understood such skepticism and designed his course to focus not only on coffee as a drink, but on how its consumption has changed society through the centuries.

John Ward, Centre's vice president for academic affairs, said that all the college's courses are approved by a curriculum committee that consists of faculty from across the campus who examine the "intellectual contexts" of any proposed course.

Ward said offering classes like the one on coffee "is as if you hold a microscope up on something really interesting. We apply the same academic and intellectual rigor in courses like this as we do in advanced literature, language or science courses. It's the same tools at work."

Weston's regular trips to coffee houses led to an interest in cafes as a place in which strangers can

talk to one another" and discuss the issues of the day. In Europe, coffee shops and cafes have served that purpose since the 17th century, he said.

Over the centuries, "cafes became places where informed men, some educated and some not, would come together and talk about stuff," including literature, plays, poems, economics and politics, Weston said.

The emergence of the Seattle-based Starbucks chain has helped bring the coffee house back into vogue in this country.

"Having a place to do that enriches a culture," Weston said.

"It takes us out of the cocoon of private life and into the public world. Cafes are important for creating a public life, particularly in a democracy. It becomes a place where the town, or, in the big city, where the neighborhood develops."

At Atlanta's Emory University, the University of Washington and the University of California-Irvine, similar courses are taught by professors with such varied academic backgrounds as anthropology, chemistry and history.

"It really combines so many disciplines," said Mark Pendergrast, the author of "Uncommon Grounds: The History of Coffee and How It Transformed Our World," which was used as a textbook in Weston's class at Centre.

"Everywhere you look in our culture, coffee has a fairly profound effect," Pendergrast said. "I think it's a wonderful way to teach history and culture and economics."

University of Washington chemistry professor Joe Norman had a practical reason for developing his honors seminar, "Coffee and Humanity."

"It's fun, and I think education should be broad like this to some extent," Norman said. "Of course, Seattle is a good place to offer such a seminar. There's enough coffee around here!"



Beau Weston teaches "The Café and Public Life," a class about coffee, at Centre College in Danville, Ky.



Bill Britt, director of the Association of Patient Advocates and who suffers from epilepsy and post-polio complications, uses cannabis to help ease his chronic pain.

Calif. growers want to make sure their pot is pesticide-free

By MICHELLE LOCKE
The Associated Press

BERKELEY, Calif. — Medical-marijuana growers in Mendocino County — a Northern California outpost that is home to vegans, vintners, libertarians and aging hippies — want to have their pot certified as organic.

The notion of pesticide-free pot is making some people smile.

But county officials say the issue is serious, and they are asking the state whether they can regulate pot-growing and pronounce some crops organic.

They say that with no system to regulate cultivation, consumers are at risk.

"We regulate wine grape growers and pear growers and everybody else, so why shouldn't we also regulate pot growers?" said Tony Linegar, assistant agricultural commissioner for Mendocino County.

California, one of 11 states with medical marijuana laws, allows people to grow, smoke or obtain pot with a doctor's recommendation.

If the county got the go-ahead to regulate organic medical marijuana, it would be "absolutely a first," said Allen St. Pierre of the National Organization for the Reform of Marijuana Laws. Regulating cultivation would be "a huge leap in the public discourse and policy-making, in that it recognizes that medical cannabis is legal but it needs to have some sort of local controls placed on it."

A request last month by two marijuana growers who want their crops to be certified organic is being evaluated by state officials. County agriculture authorities want their state counterparts to determine whether the county can certify the marijuana as organic, and if they should check the plants for pests as they do with other crops.

'Green' grocery services tap into growing niche market

By MELANTHIA MITCHELL
The Associated Press

SEATTLE — Most of Ronny Bell's friends have always been farmers, but tilling the earth was not for this New York transplant. Instead, Bell started an organic produce delivery business that blended healthy eating with convenience.

"People are busy, yet they want to try to take ownership of their health," Bell said. The small warehouse in Seattle's Fremont neighborhood where he operates Pioneer Organics.

Since founding the company in 1997, Bell has seen his customer list lengthen from six to more than 4,000 clients in the Puget Sound region and more recently in Portland, Ore. It's a testament to the growing number of people who seek organic produce and natural foods, but wish to avoid lottery-style shopping trips for quality goods.

Despite the failure of mainstream gro-

cery-delivery services, more and more companies like Bell's are successfully operating around the country, including in San Francisco, Washington, D.C., and New York City. John Zechiel, who runs Washington's Green Grocer in Washington, D.C., works with about 32 local farmers, and since adding organic produce to his selections, he said about 60 percent of his customers have opted for the natural choice.

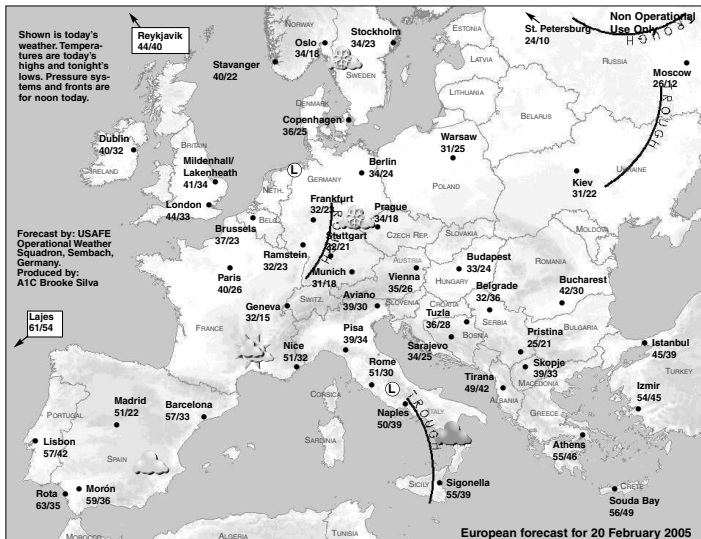
"We may move to 100 percent organic as demand increases," said Zechiel, whose business serves roughly 500 customers.

Bell works with dozens of organic farms throughout the Northwest, California and Mexico to offer a variety of fruits and vegetables.

Sales of organic foods grew more than 20 percent to \$10.4 billion in 2003, with an annual average growth rate of 18 percent forecast for 2004-2008, according to a trade survey conducted by Nutrition Business Journal of San Diego.



Pioneer Organics owner Ronny Bell poses at his business in Seattle. Businesses like Bell's are popular with people who seek organic produce and natural foods, but wish to avoid lottery-style shopping trips for quality goods.



EUROPEAN FORECAST

Benelex: Cloudy with rain and snow showers. High in the upper 30s to lower 40s. Monday lows in the 20s.

Britain, Ireland: Mostly cloudy with rain and snow showers. High in the upper 30s to mid 40s. Monday lows in the lower to mid 30s.

Croatia and Bosnia: Cloudy with rain and snow showers. High in the mid 30s. Sunday lows in the mid to upper 20s.

France: Mostly cloudy with isolated rain showers. High in the mid 30s to lower 40s. Monday lows in the mid 20s to lower 30s.

Northern Germany: Cloudy with snow showers. High in the lower to mid 30s. Monday lows in the lower to mid 20s.

Southern Germany: Cloudy with snow showers. High in the lower 30s. Monday lows in the upper teens to lower 20s.

Hungary: Cloudy with snow showers. High in the lower 30s. Monday lows in the mid 20s.

Northern Italy: Mostly cloudy with rain and snow showers. High in the mid 30s. Monday lows in the upper 20s to mid 30s.

Southern Italy: Cloudy with rain showers. High in the mid 30s. Monday lows in the upper 20s to mid 30s.

Kosovo: Cloudy with snow showers. High in the mid 20s to mid 30s. Monday lows in the lower 20s to lower 30s.

Norway: Mostly cloudy with isolated snow showers. High in the mid 30s to lower 40s. Monday lows in the upper teens to lower 20s.

Portugal: Partly cloudy. High in the mid 30s to lower 40s. Monday lows in the mid 30s to lower 40s.

Turkey: Cloudy with rain and snow showers. High in the mid 30s to lower 40s. Monday lows in the mid 30s to lower 40s.



KEY:	Sun	Partly Cloudy	Mostly Cloudy	Cloudy	Showers	Storms	Rain	Rain/Snow	Snow
AFRICA									
Capa Town	79	64	Mogadishu	84	10				
Dakar	79	62	Nairobi	82	57				
Freeport	88	73	Rabat	62	41				
Kinshasa	80	73	Tripoli	62	42				

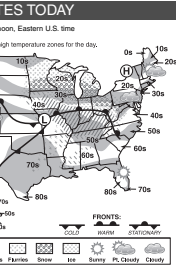
THE WORLD	HI	LO	HI	LO	HI	LO	HI	LO	HI	LO
Amsterdam	41	29	Manila	87	79					
Bahrain	75	61	Mexico City	71	47					
Beijing	30	14	Montreal	31	17					
Bombay	84	68	Nyirah	84	71					
Buenos Aires	66	51	Rio de Jan	84	71					
Calcutta	84	68	Sao Paulo	84	71					
Chennai	84	68	Seoul	40	31					
Chongqing	84	68	Sydney	79	68					
Chongqing	84	68	Tokyo	49	36					

TODAY'S STATESIDE OUTLOOK	HI	LO	HI	LO	HI	LO	HI	LO	HI	LO
Alaska	70	47	Alaska	70	47					
Alaska	70	47	Alaska	70	47					
Alaska	70	47	Alaska	70	47					
Alaska	70	47	Alaska	70	47					
Alaska	70	47	Alaska	70	47					
Alaska	70	47	Alaska	70	47					
Alaska	70	47	Alaska	70	47					
Alaska	70	47	Alaska	70	47					
Alaska	70	47	Alaska	70	47					

SUN & MOON

Sunrise (Baghdad)	Today	Tomorrow
Sunrise (Baghdad)	6:54 AM	6:40 AM
Sunrise (Baghdad)	7:27 AM	7:25 AM
Sunrise (Baghdad)	5:53 PM	5:53 PM
Sunrise (Baghdad)	5:53 PM	5:53 PM

THE UNITED STATES TODAY



Scheduled to **ETS** or **PCS**

Check our Relocation Guide every Saturday to find Realtors at your new station.

STARS AND STRIPES

Your Hometown Newspaper

Horoscope

The Leo moon has a big personality, like a friend who exaggerates the truth and whom you regularly forgive for doing so because he or she is so entertaining in the process. The child inside each of us is featured and likely will be acting out, which doesn't have to be disastrous. With the right attitude, this is the most creative day of the week.

TODAY'S BIRTHDAY

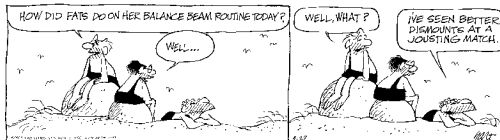
(February 22). There's no end to your creativity this year. Talent makes you attractive to potential partners, and you'll be encouraged to make a choice for your love life in April. Marriage is featured in July. Your new approach to work brings in more money this summer. Hard work will be required, and there's no getting around it. Love signs are Virgo and Libra.



Fotrot



B.C.



Baby Blues



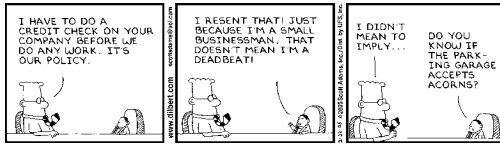
Spider Man



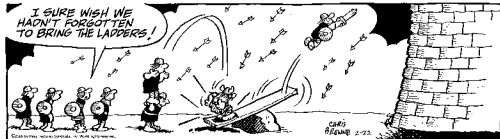
Blondie



Dilbert



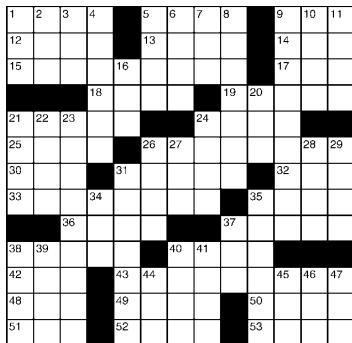
Hagar



Garfield



Eugene Sheffer Crossword



Across

- 1 Mexican entree
5 Prunes
9 Snoo Dogg's genre
12 "Bonanza" brother
13 Part of the foot
14 "— was saying, ..."
15 Georgia school
17 Pooch
18 Contact, for one
19 Enjoinment
21 Fluctuate
24 Chime
25 Egress
26 Bee activity
30 The whole shooting match
31 Basin accessories
32 "To Wong —, ..."
33 Tension relief
35 Frizzo do
36 "— for All Seasons"

Down

- 1 Highlander's topper
2 Big bother
3 Daytona entry
4 Brunch offering
5 "The — King"
7 Home-office eqpt.
8 Money of Israel
9 Massachusetts school
10 "Dilbert" intern
11 Swine
16 Part of H.R.H.
20 Under the weather
21 Have on
22 Wheelbase terminus
23 Pennsylvania school
24 Ernie's buddy
26 Former ugly duckling
27 Place for 11-Down
28 Asta's mistress
29 Suitable
31 Instance
34 Chartres chum
35 Collar
37 Paper Mate rival
38 Pickle type
39 Falco of "The Sopranos"
40 Languish
41 Unsigned (Abbr.)
44 Roulette bet
45 Snake eyes
46 Skull tool
47 Comedian Louis

Answer to Previous Puzzle



2-22

CRYPTOQUIP

T Q Q B U S C R T R S K O
U S Q V O T A L E Y L K Q Y X V V S C R
I T R . S H A X B O E I L Q L L C

T Q T H X H L - T O O O X Q Q .
Yesterday's Cryptquip: I GUESS THE WORLD'S SECOND-BEST WRITING IMPLEMENT COULD BE CALLED THE PEN ULTIMATE.

Today's Cryptquip Clue: V equals P

Cardinals trying to manage Pujols' injury

The Associated Press

JUPITER, Fla. — Cardinals first baseman Albert Pujols has no plans to take it easy during spring training, even though his running might be restricted because of a heel injury that hindered him much of last season.

"I'm going to go out and try to win a job," he said Sunday after reporting to camp at Roger Dean Stadium, where pitchers and catchers were working out.

Position players are due Tuesday but Pujols was early along with several other veterans, including Jim Edmonds and Larry Walker.

Pujols, third in the National League MVP voting last year behind Barry Bonds and Adrian Beltré, has chronic plantar fasciitis, a condition more commonly associated with long-distance running.

Pujols is affected most when he runs the bases aggressively, though the injury didn't stop him from racking up stats last year.

While leading the Cardinals to the National League title, Pujols batted .331 with 46 home runs and 123 RBIs. He's the only player in major league history to hit 30 or more homers in his first four seasons.

After the season, Pujols underwent sound wave treatment on his left heel. He was feeling much better in the weeks after the treat-



Briefs

ment, but started having trouble again in January and underwent a second treatment.

Pujols doesn't know what started the injury.

"It just started hurting and never stopped," he said.

Though Pujols doesn't plan to take it easy, he will be careful.

"The injury will be in the back of my mind, and I want to be smart about it," Pujols said. "If it comes to the point that I am going through the pain that I went through last season, I don't think I can do it. I'll have to take some time off."

That's something he didn't do last summer when the pain sometimes bothered him.

"We saw another side of Albert last year," manager Tony La Russa said. "He is working with a guaranteed contract and it could have been easy for him to say, 'Hey, why do I have to be out there?' But Albert wants to win."

The Cardinals will monitor how much running Pujols does this spring, and he may sit out some drills.

"He really likes to run hard because he wants to show people he is hustling all the time," La Russa said. "But now he has to be smart

about it. There may be times when he has to gear down a little bit."

Rangers' Greer retires

SURPRISE, Ariz. — Texas Rangers outfielder Rusty Greer has given up his comeback attempt and retired, nearly three years after playing his last game.

Greer's all-out, aggressive style made him a fan favorite during his nine playing seasons (1994-2002), which included the team's only three American League West titles. It also led to the multiple injuries and operations that ended his career.

Texas declined Greer's 2005 contract option in October, making him a free agent. The Rangers, however, were interested in him coming to spring training on a minor league contract.

"Rusty had a great career," Rangers manager Buck Showalter said Sunday. "He could really show his consistency over the 162-game season. He was a great competitor and did things the right way, on and off the field."

Greer, 36, said he retired because he didn't know whether he could make it through another season physically.

Prates' House might need shoulder surgery

BRADENTON, Fla. — Catcher J.R. House, once considered the

top prospect in the Pittsburgh Pirates organization, faces season-ending surgery to repair tears in his right labrum and rotator cuff.

"It doesn't look good," House said Sunday. "It's something that has been bothering me for a long time. I'm looking forward to getting it fixed and hopefully I can come back better than I was before."

House said he has multiple tears in his labrum and a 30-percent tear in his rotator cuff. His agent, Dan Lozano, thinks surgery is inevitable and will be scheduled Tuesday or Wednesday.

The shoulder problems were detected when House took his physical before spring training.

Giambi arrives early for camp

Jason Giambi arrived in Tampa and told the Yankees he will be at Legends Field on Monday, a day before the first full-squad workout.

At a Feb. 10 news conference in New York, Giambi issued a general apology but didn't acknowledge using steroids.

Barry Bonds and Giambi testified in December 2003 before a grand jury investigating illegal steroid distribution. The San Francisco Chronicle reported in December that Giambi told the grand jury he used steroids and



Texas Rangers' Rusty Greer, 36, retired from baseball Sunday, nearly three years after playing his last major league game.

that Bonds told the grand jury he believed contained steroids.

"Everybody who has been named, whether it be Jason or Barry or anybody that was named in [Jose] Canseco's book, I think everybody is going to look at and have a question because the name was connected with steroids," Yankees manager Joe Torre said.

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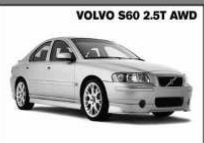
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Alex Rodriguez fields a ball during an afternoon practice after his arrival at Yankees training camp Sunday.

Rodriguez doesn't feel need to defend himself from insults

BY RONALD BLUM
The Associated Press

TAMPA, Fla. — Alex Rodriguez walked into the New York Yankees clubhouse for the first time since the Boston Red Sox made a stream of critical comments, and the third baseman suggested how his reaction would be portrayed: "A-Rod doesn't back up A-Rod."

Boston's bulls-eye arrived at spring training Sunday, and the biggest target of the Evil Empire declined to strike back. He even concurred on one of the salvos.

"As far as earning your stripes, I really couldn't agree [more] with Trot Nixon and the guys that have said that because hopefully in due time, when I pay the price like Paul O'Neill and Roger Clemens did, then the fans of New York would realize that, hopefully, I'm a Yankee," Rodriguez said.

Reporting two days ahead of the first full-squad workout, Rodriguez said he had not been keeping up with what he called the "bulletin board stuff," relating how he was occupied with his 3-month-old daughter and illnesses to two family members.

Yet, he was aware of at least a few of the zingers fired from Fort Myers, where the World Series champions opened camp last week.

The \$252 million man said the attacks were "a little perplexing." "The bottom line is they won. They've earned the right to say whatever they need to say," Rodriguez said.

Dressed in a white polo shirt and blue jeans, he spoke with reporters in the Yankees clubhouse at Legends Field, then did another interview for television cameras in the dugout. He walked onto the field to cheers from the fans in the stands and spent four min-

utes signing autographs. Across the street at the minor league complex, he homered on 15 of 67 swings against Yankees executive Mark Newman.

Usually, Rodriguez sounded quite polished. He didn't mind that none of his teammates responded to the Red Sox.

"It just tells you how classy our organization is. Our players, they don't get caught up in that everyday stuff," he said. "And I appreciate their position. I'm going to say the same thing, probably. They'll say that I'm not supporting myself. And that will probably be a big story, too."

Ever since he hit 2-for-17 in the final four games of the playoff loss to Boston, Rodriguez has indicted himself for the defeat.

"Blame it on me. If there's one guy to blame, you've got to look right here," he said.

He treats the sniping, which has been front- and back-page news, as trivial.

"I think all of this is good for the game, believe it or not, as funny as it may be," he said. He made light of his slip play in Game 6 of the AL championship series, when he hit an infield dribbler, swatted at pitcher Bronson Arroyo's glove and knocked the ball loose. After umpires huddled, he was called out for interference. Rodriguez said "it took a lot of guts" for the stadium to make that call in Yankee Stadium.

"I thought it was a brilliant play. We almost got away with it," Rodriguez said. "I was stuck in an alley, boys, there was no place to go. And I gave my karate—I only got to yell, but, I gave them my karate. And, again, I think Brandon's a great pitcher. I played with him in high school."

After Arroyo hit him with a pitch last July, still, he got his first name wrong.

"It's probably intentional. I would think," Arroyo said. "I heard he's a student of the game. It could have been a simple mistake, but I doubt it. Who knows? Maybe he thinks I'm a nobody."

Kevin Miller also took a shot at A-Rod on Sunday.

"Derek Jeter is the Yankees, period," Miller said. "A-Rod's salary doesn't dictate that he's a Yankee. Making \$25 million doesn't mean he's a Yankee."

Jose Canseco got involved too, calling Rodriguez "a phony" in his autobiography.

"With my new life and my daughter being born, you realize you only care about the opinions of those who are really in your intimate circle," A-Rod said. "I don't consider Jose to be in that circle."

After New York acquired Rodriguez from Texas last February, the 2003 AL MVP struggled to achieve the level of performance he expects. He didn't hit well with runners in scoring position until the final weeks of the season.

"It seemed the first four, five months I felt very uncomfortable, even within my own skin, still walking around, sitting around, walking around the city of Manhattan," Rodriguez said. "But once September and October came around, I felt great."

Out in the dugout, Rodriguez said winning would stop the talk and earn him his place alongside the other Yankees greats.

"I was brought in here to be the final piece, to be a world champion, and I came up short," he said. "It's something I find I have to do and will do to earn my pinstripes."

AP Sports Writer Howard Ulman in Fort Myers contributed to this report.

A-Rod reports, still Sox's lightning rod

BY HOWARD ULMAN
The Associated Press

FORT MYERS, Fla. — Another day, another shot at A-Rod.

Kevin Miller became the sixth Red Sox player in six days to criticize Alex Rodriguez for boasting about his workout routine and not measuring up to Derek Jeter as a "Yankee type."

On Sunday, A-Rod was still a lightning rod when the mouthy Miller got rolling.

"Derek Jeter is the Yankees, period," Miller said. "A-Rod's salary doesn't dictate that he's a Yankee. Making \$25 million doesn't mean he's a Yankee."

"I don't know him," he said, taking a break from shaving down his bat handle at his locker. "I know one thing. A lot of us in this locker room, we watch a guy like Derek Jeter play over and over, and he's a winner."

"And then I think, I don't know if the guy [Rodriguez] grasped for the respect or whatever, but you don't need to tell people you're an upper tier player. You don't need to tell people that you work out seven hours a day."

Rodriguez, obtained by New York before last season after Boston's bid for him failed, said in an interview last month that he leaves his house by 7 a.m. to go to work, while other players are sleeping or taking their children to school.

That's the article that rubbed guys wrong," said Miller, who works out two hours a day in the winter. "When you're a professional, you do your work. Everybody in this game wants out in the offseason."

"You're not going around having to promote and I think that's where we've got so much respect for Derek Jeter. I don't know Alex Rodriguez, if he's selfish or anything, so it would be unfair for me to say that."

Rodriguez reported to the Yankees camp in Tampa on Sunday and indicated he would tone down talk about his training regimen.

"I'm proud of my workouts, kind of just like Roger [Clemens] was proud of his workouts, and I saw Jerry Rice do his thing," he said. "Eleven years, the first time I've even talked about it."

"That will be the last, too," he said. "He may not have heard the last from the Red Sox. With Kareem [Larson] and Johnny Damon due to report with other position players Monday, the hits could keep coming."

But not from manager Terry Francona.

"I would never make a comment about another team," he said, "and I don't want to make a comment about one of our play-



Manager Terry Francona, left, greets Red Sox first baseman Kevin Miller at spring training.

ers that made a comment about somebody else when I don't know what happened."

The spring training sniping began Tuesday when Boston right fielder Trot Nixon said in response to Rodriguez' interview, "Well, I'm not a deadbeat dad, you clown. That's what I say to myself. What's wrong with me taking my kid to school and then going to work hours a day?"

Since then, Curt Schilling, David Wells, Ronson Arroyo and Jason Varitek have criticized Rodriguez, directly or subtly.

Like Nixon said, [Jorge] Posada, Derek Jeter, Bernie Williams, you don't hear anything. Who's the one guy you hear something [from] over there?" Miller said. "You never see Jeter involved with anything but worrying about winning."

Kevin Miller
Red Sox first baseman

"You never see him out on a face mask in front of anybody," he added. "I play first base. I talk to everybody in the big leagues."

"You know who's fake, you know who's not."

Does he talk to Rodriguez at first? "Not much," Miller said. "There were times over the winter when Miller didn't know if he'd be back in the Red Sox clubhouse. Then they traded Doug Mientkiewicz, their other first baseman, to the New York Mets on Jan. 26, one day after Florida signed free agent first baseman Carlos Delgado."

"I wanted to play here, so it was scary" before those moves, Miller said. "When you put on a Red Sox jersey, it puts a little sparkle in your eye."

The Yankees pinstripes represent a much more successful tradition, but the Red Sox are champions for the first time in 86 years. The Yankees won 26 World Series between those Boston titles.

"The Yankees are awesome. They're a great organization," Miller said. "I think what we do is pretty awesome."

Scott wins rain-shortened Nissan Open in playoff

The Associated Press

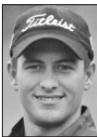
LOS ANGELES — Adam Scott made a 4-foot par putt on the 18th hole Monday morning to beat Chad Campbell in a sudden-death playoff in the Nissan Open, the first PGA Tour event in nine years to be up to 36 holes.

The playoff came shortly after the final two rounds were canceled because of rain that saturated Riviera Country Club, leaving Scott and Campbell to play for the difference of \$386,000.

Scott earned \$864,000 and moved up to No. 7 in the world ranking, his highest ever. But because the tournament was only 36 holes, he will not get credit for an official victory.

It was his second big putt in two days.

Scott finished off his second round Sunday with a 20-foot birdie putt on his final hole for a 5-under 66 that enabled him to



Scott

join Campbell in the lead at 9-under 133. Campbell shot 65 in the second round, but he finished on Friday.

Rain washed out play Saturday, and Sunday just as Campbell arrived at Riviera.

Playing for the first time in three days, Campbell laced a drive down the middle of the fairway. His 5-wood was right of the green, and after getting relief from a puddle, he chipped 5 feet past the hole. His par putt caught the left lip, and Scott rolled in his 4-footer.

"It's been a tough week, a very unusual week," Scott said. "I

Sports briefs

knew what I had to do back there on the ninth (Sunday), and it worked out in the end."

Mississippi State's Roberts day to day with thigh injury

STARKVILLE, Miss. — Mississippi State star forward Lawrence Roberts is day to day after injuring his leg at Kentucky on Saturday night.

Roberts bruised and strained his right quadriceps in the second half of the Bulldogs' 94-78 loss. Coach Rick Stansbury wasn't sure if Roberts would play at Georgia on Wednesday.

"I don't know that status right now at all," Stansbury said Monday. "We don't think it's any ligaments, but [his status] is totally up in the air right now."

Roberts, the Southeastern Conference's fourth-leading scorer and top rebounder, got tangled up with Kentucky's Ramel Bradley with 7:05 left and fell to the floor, clutching his right knee. He did not return.

He initially feared he had torn knee ligaments, and after the game Stansbury said he thought Roberts had broken his knee.

Trainers later said the injury wasn't as serious as first thought.

Roberts leads the Bulldogs (18-8, 6-6 SEC) with 17.4 points and 11 rebounds per game.

Federation wants life ban for corrupt soccer referee

FRANKFURT, Germany — The German soccer federation has asked for a lifetime ban and a hefty fine for the referee who admitted fixing games.

The federation (DFB) filed charges in its sports court Monday against Robert Hoyzer, who

admitted he was paid more than \$85,000 to manipulate games in the biggest German soccer corruption scandal in more than 30 years.

Hoyzer was arrested, along with three Croatian brothers suspected of masterminding the scam. Berlin prosecutors are investigating 25 people, including 14 players and four referees, suspected of rigging at least 10 games, mostly in lower divisions.

The federation said the gravity of Hoyzer's "greed-driven" actions required a lifetime ban from soccer and \$65,000 fine.

Apart from soccer sanctions, Hoyzer faces up to 10 years in prison if charged and convicted of fraud.

The federation has already pledged \$2.6 million in compensation to a first-division club, Hamburger SV, which lost a German Cup match because of Hoyzer's manipulation.

A second-division match will be replayed and 13 more matches are under appeal.

Report: Sprinters implicate doctor in BALCO scandal

SAN FRANCISCO — Disgraced sprinter Kelli White, one of several athletes at the center of the BALCO scandal, claims a doctor diagnosed her with narcolepsy to cover up her use of a banned stimulant — even though she never had the sleep disorder, the San Francisco Chronicle reported on its Web site Monday.

The paper, quoting grand jury transcripts, also said world champion sprinter Tim Montgomery testified that Dr. Brian Goldman gave her a steroids prescription for him under a false name so it wouldn't be traceable.

White told the newspaper that Goldman publicly stated she had a sleep disorder, but that was part of a false story devised by Bay Area Laboratory Co-Operative head Victor Conte. In August 2003, White tested positive for modafinil after winning gold medals in the 100- and 200-meter sprints during the World Track and Field Championships in Paris. Last year, the U.S. Anti-Doping Agency suspended White from competition for two years.

According to White, within hours of testing positive, she phoned Conte, who told her to issue the false statement saying she took the drug for narcolepsy. "It sounded good," White told the Chronicle. "It was a story that Victor told me to use."

White said Goldman called her soon after and helped make up the story for the press conference on Aug. 30, 2003.

"And that was my first time ever meeting, or speaking, to Dr. Goldman," White told the Chronicle.

White admitted to taking illegal performance-enhancing drugs in May 2004, and accepted a two-year drug ban that cost her a trip to the Athens Olympics and every medal she'd won in the previous four years.

Goldman was an associate of Conte, who, along with three others, were indicted in U.S. District Court in San Francisco on steroid charges in 2003. Goldman pleaded not guilty. Goldman, a psychiatrist, hasn't been charged.

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Young stars: NBA improving without age

DENVER — The NBA found itself caught between hypocrisy and hype at the All-Star Game.

As Commissioner David Stern pushed his idea of a 20-year-old age minimum for players in the draft, fully one-third of the 24 All-Stars showcased Sunday night were teenagers when they joined the league.

Steve Wilstein



O'Neal and Gilbert Arenas on the Eastern Conference team, Kobe Bryant, Kevin Garnett, Rashard Lewis, Tracy McGrady and Amare Stoudemire on the Western Conference team.

They are the vanguard of the NBA's evolving image and swelling merchandise sales, and they are the strongest argument the players' association could offer in opposing Stern's plan in the new collective bargaining agreement under negotiation.

There was James, Rookie of the Year last year and an MVP candidate this season, looking as comfortable on the court as any of his seniors, scoring 13 points and handing out six assists in the East's 125-115 victory. He teamed with game MVP Allen Iverson on one of the most fan-pleasing plays, a dunk off an alley-oop pass from Iverson in the first quarter.

There was Garnett, the NBA's MVP last season and a teen when he entered the league out of high school a decade ago, looking no worse at 28 for turning pro so young.

Stern is claiming the moral high ground on the age issue, saying he is looking out for the best interests of the game and the many kids whose NBA dreams never materialize. But when push comes to shove in the contract



Redick, Duke rebound to knock off Demons

The Associated Press

DURHAM, N.C. — In the first and likely only start of his career, Patrick Davidson set the emotional tone for Duke. He man-handled Wake Forest guard Chris Paul on the opening possession, bumping him wildly before a foul was called.

He left the game after two minutes to a rousing ovation and got a warm embrace from Blue Devils coach Mike Krzyzewski,

who left no doubts about how important this game was.

"It's something I'll never forget," Davidson said.

J.J. Redick was pretty memorable himself.

The junior guard scored a career-high 36 points after Coach K shook up the starting lineup, and reserve Lee Melchioni added 15 to lead the seventh-ranked Blue Devils past No. 5 Wake Forest 102-92 Sunday night.

Duke (19-4, 9-4 Atlantic Coast Conference), coming off consecutive losses for only the fourth time in the past eight seasons, had its way with the Demon Deacons in the second half.

After trailing by two at the break, the Blue Devils shot 61 percent in the final 20 minutes to reach their highest point total of the season.

"It was as good as our offense has looked all year, and it wasn't one guy or just me," Redick said. "It was everybody."

Chris Paul had 27 points and Trent Strickland scored 17 for Wake Forest (22-4, 10-3), which fell out of a first-place tie with North Carolina.

Duke center Shelden Williams more than held his own in the matchup with Eric Williams, finishing with 12 points, nine rebounds and four blocks. And Melchioni, a junior who played very well in the first two seasons, came up with big play after big play when the Blue Devils needed it most.

He came in averaging only 6.8 points a game, but beat that total during a 90-second

span of the second half. The left-hander swished a three-pointer for a five-point lead, jumped in the passing lane for a steal that led to his own dunk, then spun in the paint for a short jumper.

"We feed off our defense as an offensive team," Melchioni said. "We really executed that."

On the other end, he drew a charge from Wake Forest guard Justin Gray, who went to the bench with his fourth foul with 14½ minutes left. Duke eventually went ahead 88-69 before the Deacons staged a furious rally to make the final respectable, getting within seven with 1:15 remaining.

The Blue Devils closed it out at the free throw line to win for only the third time in the past six games. They last lost three in a row to complete the 1995-96 season.

"It was the most competitive game we've been in in maybe a couple of years," Krzyzewski said. "Both teams just wanted it so badly. And they are just outstanding."

No. 10 Arizona 91, Oregon St. 70: At Tucson, Ariz., Salim Stoudamire sank a school record nine three-pointers and scored 31 points in his final home game, as the Wildcats won their sixth in a row.

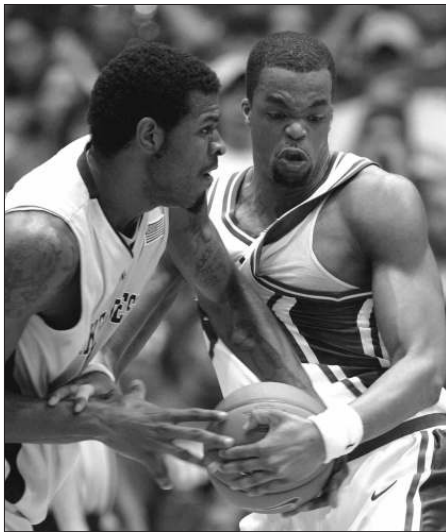
Channing Frye added 15 points and 11 rebounds as the Wildcats stayed alone in first place in the Pac-10. Stoudamire and Frye, both seniors in their last contest at McKale Center, left the game with 9:43 to play and Arizona leading 74-49.

Hassan Adams had 13 points and tied his season high with 10 rebounds for the Wildcats (23-4, 13-2 Pac-10), who finished 15-1 at home. Ivan Radevich added 10 points.

Nick DeWitz and Jason Fontenot scored 16 (14-11, 6-8), who fell to 0-7 on the road in the Pac-10.

Stoudamire, 9-for-14 on three-pointers, broke Jason Gardner's school record of eight, set against Kansas on Dec. 1, 2001.

A 55 percent three-point shooter this season — tied for first in Division I — Stoudamire was 5-for-5 on three's in the final 6:16 of the first half to put Arizona up



Duke's Shelden Williams, right, steals the ball from Wake Forest's Eric Williams during the first half at Cameron Indoor Stadium in Durham, N.C. on Sunday.

45-33 at the break.

No. 12 Louisville 84, Saint Louis 66: Taquan Dean made five three-pointers and host Louisville put together its best offensive performance in weeks.

Larry O'Bannon scored 17, Francisco Garcia added 13, and Elliot Myles finished with 13 points and 18 rebounds for the Cardinals (23-4, 11-2 Conference USA), who finished with their highest point total since a 105-69 win over Tulane on Jan. 29.

Louisville shot 30-for-61 for 49.2 percent, its best since converting 53 percent in a 99-52 win over Marquette on Jan. 26.

Izik Ohanon scored 18 to lead Saint Louis (7-18, 4-8), which played most of the game without Coach Brad Soderberg, who was ejected in the first half.

No. 25 Villanova 80, No. 17 Pittsburgh 72: Allan Ray hit five three-pointers and scored 21 of his 23 points in the second half to lift host Villanova.

Curtis Sumpter scored 18 points, Randy Frye added 15 and Villanova went 12-for-23 from three-point range, helping the Wildcats (17-6, 7-5 Big East) win for the eighth time in 10 games and bolstering their chances of making their first NCAA tournament appearance since 1999.

Calhoun, Dumars, Wilkins named finalists for Hall

The Associated Press

SPRINGFIELD, Mass. — Big East coaching rivals Jim Boheim and Jim Calhoun, and former NBA stars Joe Dumars and Dominique Wilkins are finalists for election into the Basketball Hall of Fame.

Calhoun is back for a second try, and Hubie Brown was named a finalist for the first time, as a contributor to the game. The 16 finalists were announced Sunday, and this year's class will be presented April 4 at the NCAA Final Four in St. Louis.

Previous finalists Bernard King, Maurice Cheeks, Adrian Dantley, Dennis Johnson, and Chet Walker are back on the ballot this year.

Wilkins and Dumars are finalists in their first year of consideration, as are women's coaches Van Chancellor and Sue Gunter.

Italian coach Sandro Gamba, Brazilian player Hortencia Mar-

"There has been no greater recognition personally than to be told I am a Naismith Basketball Hall of Fame finalist."

Jim Calhoun

Connecticut basketball coach

car; player John Issacs; and contributor John Kerr from the Veterans Screening Committee round off the list.

Induction requires 18 of 24 votes from the Hall of Fame's Honors Committee.

Boheim and Calhoun are both closing in on 700 career victories.

Calhoun has led Connecticut to two NCAA championships (1999, 2004), eight Big East regular-season titles, and 17 consecutive postseason tournaments.

"The phenomenal team successes we've had over the years, the championships we've won, and the wonderful young men I've been fortunate enough to coach, have been a source of great personal pride for me," Calhoun said. "But, there has been no greater recognition personally than to be told I am a Naismith Basketball Hall of Fame finalist."

Boheim and Syracuse won the NCAA championship in 2003, and have eight Big East regular-season championships. Under Boheim, Syracuse has made 23 NCAA tournament appearances and has been to the Final Four three times.

Dumars played his entire professional career for the Detroit Pistons, and helped them win

back-to-back NBA championships (1989, 1990). He currently is president of basketball operations for the Pistons, credited for assembling the team that won the 2004 NBA title.

Dumars was a six-time NBA All-Star and MVP of the 1989 NBA Finals.

Wilkins' above-the-rim acrobatics earned him the nickname "The Human Highlight Film."

A prolific scorer, Wilkins played most of his NBA career for the Atlanta Hawks (1982-93), who retired his jersey. He also played for the Los Angeles Clippers, Boston Celtics, San Antonio Spurs and Orlando Magic. Wilkins was a nine-time NBA All-Star, and a two-time NBA Slam Dunk champion.

Brown's career touches nearly every aspect of the game. He's been NBA Coach of the Year twice (1978 in Atlanta, 2004 in Memphis), and is well-known as a TV analyst. Eight of his former as-

sistants have gone on to become head coaches in the NBA.

Chancellor and Gunter were named finalists from the Women's Selection Committee.

Chancellor led the Houston Comets to four straight WNBA titles (1997-2000) and won 439 games as the head women's coach at Ole Miss (1978-1997). Gunter coached LSU for 22 seasons (1982-2004) and spent 16 seasons at Stephen F. Austin (1964-1980) after beginning her coaching career at Middle Tennessee State (1962-1964). She is the third-winningest coach in women's NCAA history with 708 wins, and led LSU to 14 NCAA tournament berths, including one Final Four appearance.

Candidates remain eligible until going three consecutive years without receiving a vote from the screening committee. At that point, a nominee is removed from consideration for five years before he or she can be nominated again.

SPORTS

Finishing with flash

'Shocked' Jeff Gordon wins third Daytona by holding off Busch, '04 winner Earnhardt

BY JENNA FRYER
The Associated Press

DAYTONA BEACH, Fla. — Jeff Gordon was helplessly socked in behind Tony Stewart when along came Dale Earnhardt Jr. with a fresh burst of speed.

By the time the wild battle royale between NASCAR's biggest stars drew a checkered flag Sunday, even Gordon admitted he was "shocked" to be leading en route to his third Daytona 500 victory.

If the start of the season was this good, imagine what the ending could be like.

Building on the momentum of last season's closest-ever championship race, NASCAR opened this year with the rivalry everybody in the sport wants to see.

Gordon nosed to the front with the fourth lead change in the last nine laps. The four-time

NASCAR champion moved into some very fast company, joining Richard Petty (7), Cale Yarborough (4) and Bobby Allison and Dale Jarrett (3) with three or more Daytona victories.

Gordon first won it in 1997 and again in 1999.

"I don't know how to put that in perspective. It's overwhelming to me," Gordon said. "I was thrilled with the two that I had.

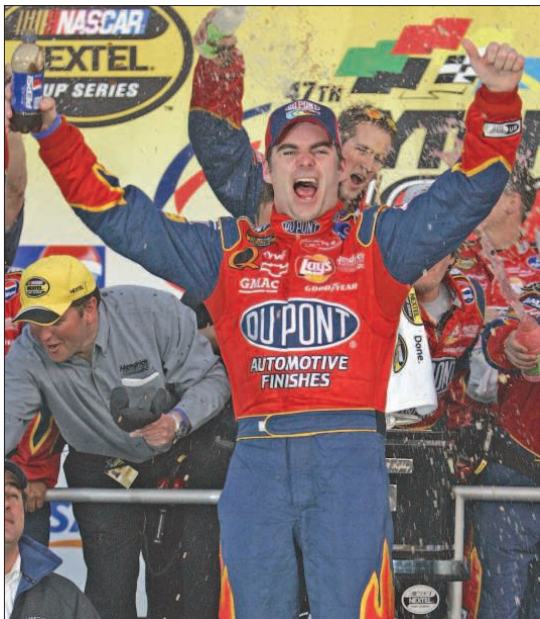
Just one is enough to make your career."

But this could be the start of another magical season. Gordon is still chasing Petty and the late Dale Earnhardt's record seven season titles, and NASCAR would like nothing more than to see Gordon and Junior — its two most marketable drivers — go down to the wire week after week.

SEE GORDON ON PAGE 31



Scott wins 36-hole
Nissan Open in playoff,
Page 27



Nextel Cup driver Jeff Gordon celebrates his victory in the Daytona 500 at the Daytona International Speedway in Daytona Beach, Fla., on Sunday. Gordon won his third title in the event by prevailing in a wild finish.



Iverson, O'Neal lead East Stars past West's best

East All-Star Allen Iverson keeps dribbling despite colliding with Kobe Bryant. Iverson earned MVP honors with his 15 points 10 assists and five-steals, but Shaquille O'Neal was the most popular player, giving hugs to every All-Star — except Bryant — dancing during his pregame introduction and showing off a cell phone imbedded in his size 22 shoe. The East beat the West in the All-Star Game in Denver. See story, Page 28

AP



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Redick's career-high 38 points lift Duke over Wake
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